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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

SEPTEMBER 22nd, 1977, ISSUE No. 36

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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

VOL. 12, No. 36 — SEPTEMBER 22nd, 1977

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COMING NEXT WEEK:

Diamond Jigs & Striped Bass

About the Cover—

Doc Muller's father, William F. Muller, along with grandchildren Kelli and Diane Wendt, put The Fisherman John Dory through its paces on the boat's maiden voyage in Peconic Bay.

Richard Reina — PUBLISHER
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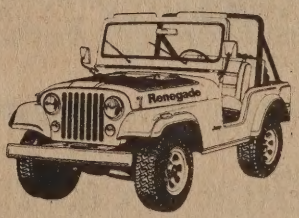

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From the Editor's Head

★★★

BOATING

SAFE BOATING COURSES

The Great South Bay Power Squadron will once again conduct its Basic Boating Course in both Islip and Sayville.

The course is free to the general public and is recommended for the new boat owner and is an excellent refresher for the seasoned salt.

The course will last for 10 weeks and will cover such subjects as handling, compass and chart familiarization, seamanship and more.

In Islip, registration will be held on Thursday, September 15 and Tuesday, September 20 at the Islip High School Cafeteria at 8 PM. Classes begin on Tuesday, September 27 at 8 PM at the Islip Jr. High School.

More information may be obtained by calling Lt. Bob Johnson at 589-6615.

****

Captree Power Squadron will again conduct their annual Safe Boating Courses this fall. Registration will be as follows:

Wednesday, Sept. 21 - Lindenhurst Jr. High Cafeteria, 350 So. Wellwood Avenue, Lindenhurst—7:30 PM.

Wednesday, Sept. 21 - Farmingdale Sr. High Cafeteria, Lincoln St. & Intervale Ave., So. Farmingdale—7:30 PM.

Monday, Sept. 26 (Registration and 1st class) - No. Babylon Sr. High Cafeteria, Deer Park Ave. & Phelps Lane, No. Babylon—7:30 PM.

****

The Old Field Point Power Squadron is starting its free 10 sessions of Basic Boating Classes on Tuesday, October 4 at Newfield High School, Selden. Classes will begin at 8:00 p.m.

For further information, please call 732-3214 or 698-1424.

****

Commander Morgan Thayer Jr., of Huntington's Neptune Power Squadron, a unit of the United States Power Squadrons, has announced the fall Boating Course schedule. Registration for the free courses is at 8 PM, Wednesday, September 28, at Walt Whitman High School, West Hills Road, Huntington Station. The Neptune Squadron has offered these 10-week courses to all boating enthusiasts of 15 years, or older, for over thirty-five years.

BEACH CLEAN-UP

There will be a beach clean-up at Smith's Point County Park on Sept. 25th at 9 A.M. by L.I.B.B.A. and G.S.B.M.S. Interested individuals or groups are welcome. Information can be obtained by calling 516 581-8595 or 516 475-0580.

Contests & Tournaments

GSBMS WINS CASTING TOURNAMENT

On Sunday, August 25, over 100 people participated in a casting contest at Smith Point County Park. Sponsors of the event were the Suffolk County Department of Parks, the Garcia Corporation, Great South Beach Mobile Sportfishermen (GSBMS), and the Patchogue Fishing Club (PFC). Contestants from as far away as New Jersey and Mount Vernon, New York came to participate in this annual event.

The winners were:

High team—GSBMS—195 Points.

Conventional Accuracy: Walter Terzikan (unattached) - 72 points; Robert Ostrom (GSBMS) - 60 points; Charles Johnson (GSBMS) - 49 points.

Spinning Accuracy: Mickey Moore (PFC) - 74 points; Richard Lemquist, Jr. (GSBMS) - 68 points; Joseph Henthorne (GSBMS) - 67 points.

Women's Accuracy: Barbara Forbes (PFC).

Junior Division: Kurt Babcock - (GSBMS); Kim Lemquist - (GSBMS); Danny Henthorne (GSBMS); Ronnie Henthorne - (GSBMS).

Why your line should glow when you're fishing for stripers.

The better you see your line, the better you can control it. That's a big help when you're trying to bring your cast down in the midst of a school of feeding stripers. In heavy surf, you can keep track of your plug by keeping sight of your line. On a boat, whether you're trolling, drifting or in the middle of fighting a good fish, being able to see your line is your best insurance against getting tangled in other lines.

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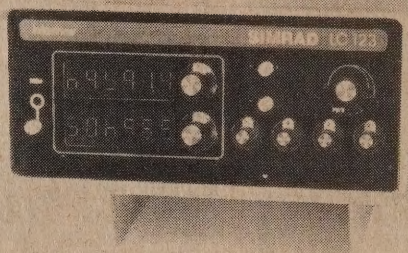

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★★★ *See us at the L.I. Floating Boat Show Oct. 7-10th* ★★★

The Long Island FISHERMAN CONTEST

FISHING TRIP

The Long Island Fisherman Litter Box Contest gives our readers a chance of winning a fishing trip for two on the open boat of their choice and a $10 cash prize. All the fisherman has to do is stop in at one of the better bait and tackle centers and pick up an L.I.F. Litter Box for the rear window of your car. Each week the license number of a car spotted with a litter box will be published—if it's yours, call The Fisherman by 5 P.M. that Friday and tell us the make and model of the car and you're a winner! If no call is received, the cash prize will accumulate.

★ *Bonus Prize* ★

Contest winners also will receive a NAFABCO GIMBAL ROD BELT, the new lightweight unbreakable plastic gimbal for boat & surf!!!

LAST WEEK'S WINNER:

There was once again no winner for our contest, so next week's winner shall receive $30 instead of the usual $10 plus a free fishing trip for two aboard a boat of his/her choice.

THIS WEEK'S WINNING LICENSE PLATE NUMBER IS:

422-JRL

Weekly winners of the L.I.F. Litter Box Contest may chose a trip for two aboard one of the following boats as their prize:

MONTAUK	CAPTREE	SHEEPSHEAD BAY	NORTH SHORE
Viking Star	Speedy VI	Amberjack IV	Port Jeff Ace
Peconic Queen III	Capt. Ben Litwin	Chief	Betty W
Marlin III	Capt. Joseph Fleet	FREEPORT Aloma II	

CLUB NEWS

BABYLON TUNA CLUB PARTICIPATES IN THE U.S. ATLANTIC TUNA TOURNAMENT

The tournament was held out of Provincetown, Massachusetts this year and Babylon was there, represented by Charlie Fischett's Three Daughters, Joe Kaich's Kathy Queen, and Dick Svoboda's Miss Marian. Though Massachusetts fishing was pretty hot earlier, this tournament saw no great bonanza of fish. No luck on the first day for Charlie's 3 D's; Kathy Queen was weathered out on the second day—tournament called. Dick Svoboda landed two fish on the third day to put Miss Marian on the board. Final results have still not come in. Team Captain Charlie Fischett will fill us in at the next meeting.

Pass It On...

STATE SENATOR MARCHI ASKS FOR IMPACT STATEMENT

State Senator John Marchi, concerned over the possibility that the bunker fishing industry may be harming the ecology of New York waters, has asked D.E.C. Commissioner Peter Berle for a full report.

The Sportfishing Council has formed a committee to study the problem for the purpose of advising D.E.C. officials. If you have input, send it to: Wade Denning, chairman of Menhaden Committee c/o The Long Island Fisherman.

ATLANTIC BLUEFIN TUNA SPORTFISHING SURVEY

The excellent giant tuna fishing continued last week in Montauk and the ABT sportfishing survey recorded 19 giants landed from 8/24 to 8/30. One additional giant of 995 pounds was brought back to Shinnecock from the fishing grounds eleven miles east of Block Island. The average weight of these fish was 838 pounds, representing a total weight of over 14,000 pounds for the week. As of August 30, 78 of the 150 giant tuna quota allocated to this area has been caught. The National Marine Fisheries Service expects the 150 fish quota to be reached by Sept. 9.

School tuna fishing was on the upswing last week. Thirteen bluefins ranging from 10 to 67 pounds were recorded by our Babylon port sampler. Fishing has centered near the "NB" buoy in approximately 100 feet of water; water temperature in that area has averaged 68-69° F. Special thanks go to Frank & Dick's State Channel Marina for

recording bluefin catches on ABT post cards.

A 225 pound bluefin tuna was caught near the drowned Texas Tower was sampled by our Freeport sampler last Saturday. Sixteen true albacore of 33 pounds each were also sampled; these fish were caught at the Hudson Canyon.

A 20 pound bluefin was recorded from Staten Island last week. Results of the Sheepshead Bay Tuna Club Labor Day weekend tuna tournament will be reported next week.

CHUM LINES

DICK MERMON ON SALTWATER—FRESHWATER

Truly, there seems to be a difference between fresh and saltwater fishing when only one side, or one type of fishing is taken up, but there is really no separateness. Fishing is fishing, and to each his own.

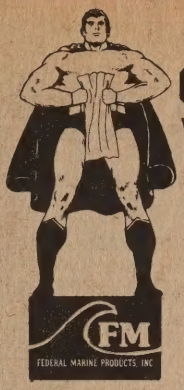
Surf fishing is indeed one of the hardest ways of catching striped bass, bluefish, weakfish, and other game species, but so are chinook and choho salmon from the wind-swept shores of Lake Ontario, where the so-called "limber wands" are seven to ten foot surf rods. Light tackle is also employed in all saltwater species where the IGFA records a six or ten pound test catch. Who is to say just what type fishing rod MUST be utilized for their own personal fishing, whether it be fresh or saltwater? Crazy as it may seem, I still use spinning tackle when I shark fish.

Tides play a great part in saltwater angling and especially from the beach and stones, but water level also activates freshwater species, as in the Salmon River of Pulaski, N.Y. Steelheads get turned on as the water rises, and settle back as it reaches the peak crest on the river. You talk about a punishing type of fishing—this is it. The best time to catch these river-running rainbow trout is from October to March, when the air temperature is below freezing and the water is about thirty-seven degrees.

Granted, bluefish do destroy tackle—and I personally like to see these monsters arrive on a scene because of my association with Shakespeare Fishing Tackle—but there are also toothy critters of the freshwater, like pike, musky, pickerel, and even walleyes. They do a heck of a job on tackle and lures also.

Electronics, such as the new-fangled devices, were designed for use first in saltwater and is a main item for every boat fisherman therein. Their use is the same as it would be for locating structure, to find fish. Before the depth finder, temperature gauge, and oxygen meter, it was the angler himself who had to read the water, as one does in surf fishing. Only recently has the temperature gauge begun to gain interest by the salty anglers and assist in finding better

(Continued on page 45.)



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ell, now that I have discussed the baits, let me give you some hints as far as seasons, winds, moons, and time of day are concerned.

During the spring, the dawn hours produce better, but can be picked during midday. Night fishing has produced some large fish, but in general, I have found the spring a little slow to start. The fishing will reach a high point around the last two weeks in June and, at times, extend into the first week in July.

Southeast winds are the best, with south pulling up second; north winds are generally unproductive.

Summer at Lido is no different from anywhere else. The fish go into their dawn-dusk feeding patterns. Dawn until about nine o'clock and dusk till midnight seem to be the best times. Southerly winds are the best. North winds flatten the surf and drive the fish offshore. I have found that if you can be on the beach the morning of a wind change from northerly to southerly winds, your chances of taking fish are excellent.

Surf Side

with David Curti

BAITFISHING AT LIDO BEACH

★PART FOUR★

As all surf men and women know, fall is the best season of them all. There is one wind that produced fish regardless of the time of day, and that is northeast—especially if there is mullet in the water.

I am not limiting fall fishing to just northeast winds. Any wind can be productive in the fall, but it was during northeast winds that I took six bass in two-and-a-half hours at midday.

At this point, I must introduce a negative point about fishing Lido—sea weed. Oh boy, does it get sea weed! If you look at a map, you will see that Lido Beach is a pocket, and the sea weed gets trapped in there. Strong winds that blow for a couple of days from the south, southwest, and northeast can make Lido look like a bowl of grandma's spinach soup. Fishing is impossible. After one of these heavy blows, wait a day or two, then go.

If any one place could prove the adage that bass fishing is best following a full moon, it is Lido. According to my logs, all of my bass have been taken during the full and last quarter of the moon.

Incoming tide, to three hours into outgoing tide, produce best. Slack high water has also been productive, especially in the fall.

There are basically two classes of fish at Lido: schoolies up to about twelve pounds, and big fish. There seems to be a conspicuous absence of teen-size fish.

You do not hear too much about these large fish. Oh sure, every once in a while you read in the LIF about a thirty or forty pounder coming out of Lido, but these secrets are kept well.

Surfcasters are a close-knit, secretive crew. In fact, I will probably catch some static from a few regulars I know for "giving away some secrets."

Believe me, there are no secrets here. I will tell you the secret of successful surf fishing—TIME. That's right—logged surf time. Oh a few hooples get lucky and catch a cow their first time out, but for everyone that does, there are a thousand that don't. Luck shines once in a while, but if you are like me, you have to pay your dues and pound the beach and, one day experience pays off. Before you know it, you are the fellow dragging a full stringer off the beach in plain sight of fishermen muttering petty excuses as to why they are fishless.

You have to get to know the areas that you fish, and know them well. When I started fishing Lido a number of years ago, I fished it at least two or three times a week for an entire season. I covered every jetty at different hours of the day, stages of the tide, moon, etc. I also kept a log, which is perhaps one of the most valuable tools a surf man can have. Every winter I study my logs and make charts, endeavoring to find patterns that produce fish for me, and every once in a while, there is one. Today Lido is one of my regular haunts for table fare.

Bass are not the only fish at this beach, although as far as I am concerned, they are. What can I tell you? For me, "Old Roccus" is it.

In the last couple of years, since the return of the weakfish, this predator has more than taken up the slack during the summer doldrums. In fact, in August more weaks came out of Lido than bass.

The fish are of respectable size, ranging from four to about nine pounds. In fact, during the summer and early fall, a mixed stringer of bass and weaks are not uncommon.

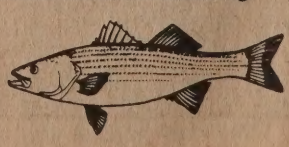
Let us not forget the bluefish. They blitz the beach a number of times a season. Dawn and midday during the fall seem to be their preferred times. As far as size is concerned, they are usually around four or five pounds. However, there are a number of loners that put in an appearance. These fish are usually over ten pounds, and come as quite a surprise to an unsuspecting fisherman.

Lido Beach has been very good to me this year. As of the writing of this article, the gods have blessed me with a total of forty-eight fish.

If you plan to fish Lido, stay below the high tide line, or on the jetties. It is private property and there are guards. So far, they have been pretty decent as far as serious fishermen are concerned: everyone else gets chased. Please do not litter the beach, and be courteous if someone asks you what you are doing there. Remember, one unthinking fisherman can ruin one of the most consistently productive areas on the South Shore.

One more thing before I close. For the sake of future fishing, please return the small fish. Too many guys take the shorts because they "taste better"—bull! I have eaten all sizes of bass, and the difference in taste is non-existent. With the disastrous depletion of the striped bass populations, please do not add to the destruction! Conservation is everyone's responsibility.

The author's basic surf rigs, from left to right: (1.) the kiddie rig and (2.)the standard fish-finder and (3.) the balloon rig.



NAT'L. HUNTING & FISHING DAY, SEPT. 24

NATIONAL HUNTING & FISHING DAY, SEPT. 24, 1977 IS OBSERVED BY CONSERVATIONISTS IN APPRECIATION OF ALL THE FEDERAL EXCISE TAXES AND STATE FEES PAID BY FISHERMEN AND HUNTERS ON THE FISHING TACKLE, LICENSES, GUNS AND AMMO THEY BUY. THIS MONEY PAYS FOR THE CONSERVATION DEP'TS. IN ALL 50 STATES WHILE THE FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE USES ITS SHARE FOR CONSERVATION PROJECTS ON FEDERAL LANDS FOR THE USE OF ALL CITIZENS INCLUDING CAMPERS, HIKERS ETC.

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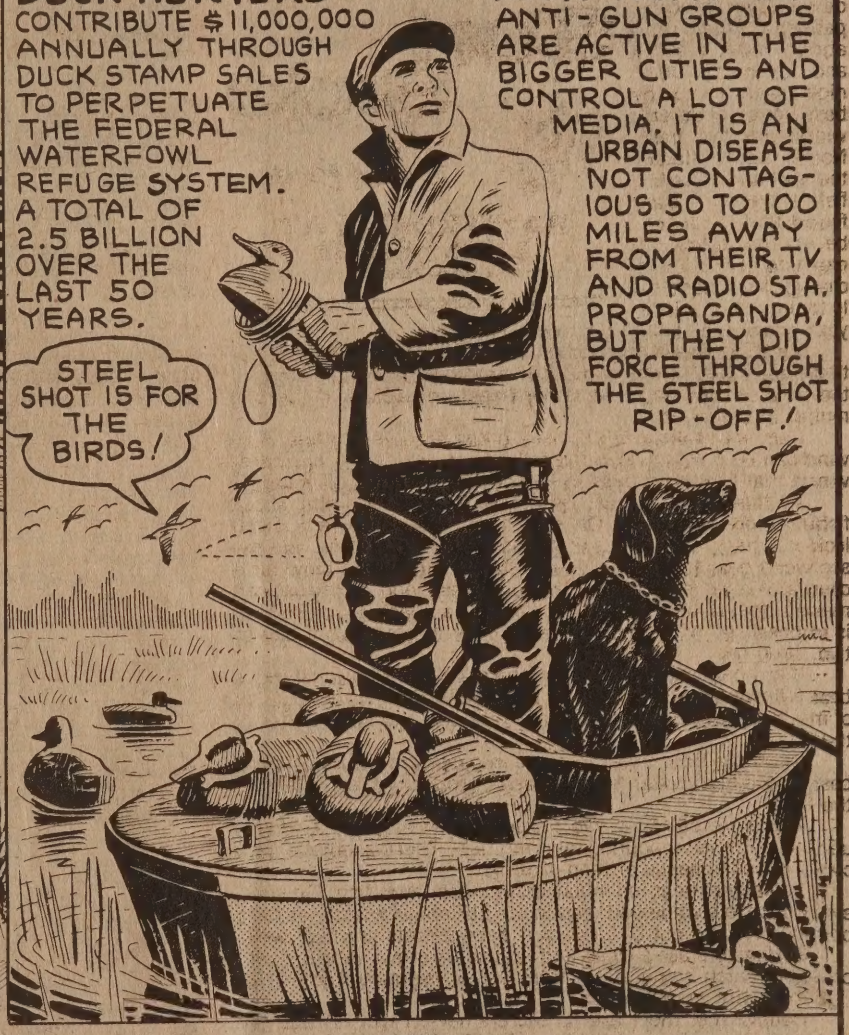
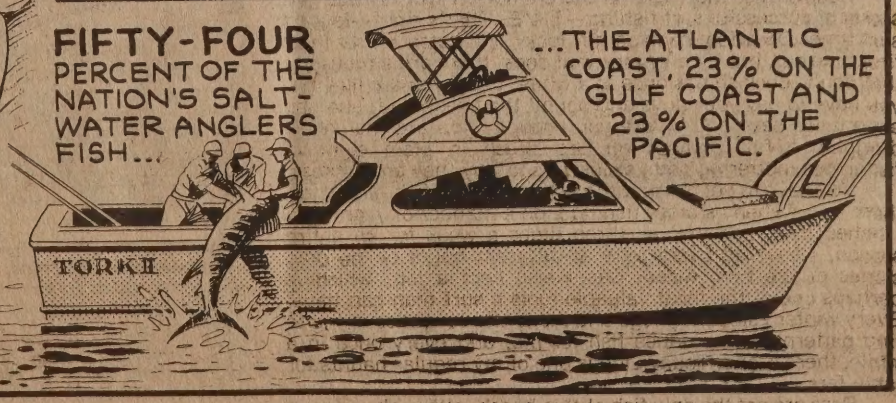


NO ONE IS MORE CONCERNED ABOUT ECOLOGY, THE BALANCE OF NATURE AND THE PRESERVATION OF UNPOLLUTED WILDERNESS THAN IS THE HUNTER.

BY FRED GUARDINEER

FIFTY-FOUR PERCENT OF THE NATION'S SALTWATER ANGLERS FISH...

...THE ATLANTIC COAST, 23% ON THE GULF COAST AND 23% ON THE PACIFIC.



INSHORE FISHING

with Scott J. Simons

DOORMAT FLUKING

★ *PART TWO* ★

In Part One last week we discussed what types of bait and rigs to use to catch doormat fluke, as well as the kinds of artificials that are effective. In summary, the choice of bait should fill two requirements: it should be large, as well as **fresh**—preferably live when at all possible. Whole, fresh dead baits which are effective in order of preference are: snappers, weakfish fry, tinker mackerel, local squid and **large** sand eels, spearing or members of the herring family. Same order of preference, but settle for whatever type of live bait you can get. The next category of bait for doormats is the strip bait. Cut a pennant-shaped strip of flesh anywhere from six to ten or twelve inches long from any of the following fish, in order of preference: fluke, mackerel, bergalls, sea robins, squid, small bluefish or whatever else is available. As a final choice, use a frozen bait: sand eels, spearing, small whole squid, smelt, finger mullet, snappers, et cetera; no preference—we're talking last resort here.

We also discussed the artificial lures that are effective this time of year on doormat fluke, when they are unusually aggressive as they put on the feed bag to fatten up prior to the offshore migration to their wintering grounds. Tipped with a SHORT strip of squid for smell (or accomplishing the same goal via the Chummin' Squid pellets), an artificial plastic squid jigged vigorously over the bottom in deep water can really by a dynamite method of taking doormats at certain times. Some of the brand names of artificial squid that I personally have found effective are: Chummin' Squid by Applied Oceanographic, the "Ha-Ha" Squid by Capt. John Sekora of Montauk and the Psycho-Squid sleeved over an Ava-87 diamond jig.

This week we'll wind things up with where-to-go and where-to-look for big fluke when-you-get-there. On the south shore of Long Island, the inlets are natural gathering points for fluke to gather—Debs, Jones, Fire Island, Moriches and Shinnecock Inlets have all been known to yield their share of doormats this time of year. In fact, two super doormats, including a possible world record, were taken in south shore inlets just last week. Fifteen-year-old Tom Crowley of New Jersey, bagged a 17 pound, 5 ounce doormat fluke while fishing on Capt. Bob Patafio's charterboat **YANKEE** out of Captree. The big fish was taken in Fire Island Inlet on a squid strip and killie combination bait—well, so much for theories ...

But wait—Mabel Andretta of Bellrose "went by the book" and fished the recommended number one doormat fluke bait, a live snapper, in Jones Inlet. She was rewarded with a doormat of 18 pounds, 8 ounces that will be a new Women's World Record for fluke caught on twenty pound test line, if the International Game Fish Association approves the catch. The fish also may very well be worth in excess of $5000—Mabel's husband is a subscriber to The Long Island Fisherman, which qualifies her to enter the fluke in Starfish Marine's Fishing Contest. Grand prize is the winner's choice of either a Mako 20 or a Grady-White center console. (See page 36 in this issue for details on the L.I.F./Starfish Marine Contest.)

The mouths of the south shore inlets are excellent locations for finding doormat fluke because the narrow opening acts as a funnel, herding any baitfish leaving or entering the bay into narrow confines. This time of year, as the chilly nights rapidly cool the shallow waters of the bay, the baitfish tend to leave the bay. Taking the course of least resistance, naturally, the baitfish make their movements during the ebb tide when the water is moving seaward in the direction they want to travel. Conclusion: fish the mouths of inlets during outgoing water, particularly the slack just before the ebb begins and the first two or three hours after the water has begun moving.

Now just don't start fishing **ANYWHERE** in an inlet—use a little common sense and look for structures that usually attract fluke. Look for the edge at the mouth where the depth usually begins to drop as a gradual slope. Also look for the edge of the channel where you have deep, rapidly moving water running next to a calmer, relatively shallow water shelf. Also try both sides of any sand bar where the moving water rushes over it at a right angle, creating a turbulence marked by a rip. In short, don't just drift around blind—as are most big fish, doormats are lazy compared to the smaller fish of the species and they don't move around too much needlessly, preferring to feed from ambush. So they aren't going to come to you—you have to keep moving around, drifting over new formations until you score.

These doormat fluke up to 9½ pounds were taken late last summer on Montauk's south side aboard *The Fisherman's* Grady-White center console, background. Fish were taken on both live snappers and whole fresh local squid, including the three pound humpback seabass (center) and the 3-lb. class porgy on the right.

Another type of structure that many would-be flukers overlook for doormat fluke are reefs, particularly the two artificial ones at Fire Island. Both the Kismet Reef in Great South Bay and the Fire Island Ocean Reef are known for producing big fish in quantity this time of year. In fact, Doc Grell took his Six Pound Class I.G.F.A. World Record Fluke of 18 pounds, 3 ounces on the Kismet Reef, which is located close to the inlet just east of the Fire Island Lighthouse. The bait? No bait—a plastic squid sleeved over a diamond jig.

Montauk—home of the doormat fluke in my book. Both in quantity and quality, Montauk has to be the best spot on the Island to score with a doormat. During the late run of fluke last year, so many fluke in the eighteen pound class were being taken, that a fish in the low or mid-teens barely got a mention in the fishing reports. Cove Marina, an official weigh-in station for The Fisherman's "Skillful Angling Award" program, weighed in the following fluke during a one-month period last year: 14 lbs. 10 oz., 15 lbs. 8 oz., 18 lbs. 12 oz., 19 lbs. 12 oz., 18 lbs. 11 oz., 14 lbs. 2 oz., 15 lbs. 5 oz., and 18 pounds even! That's fluking.

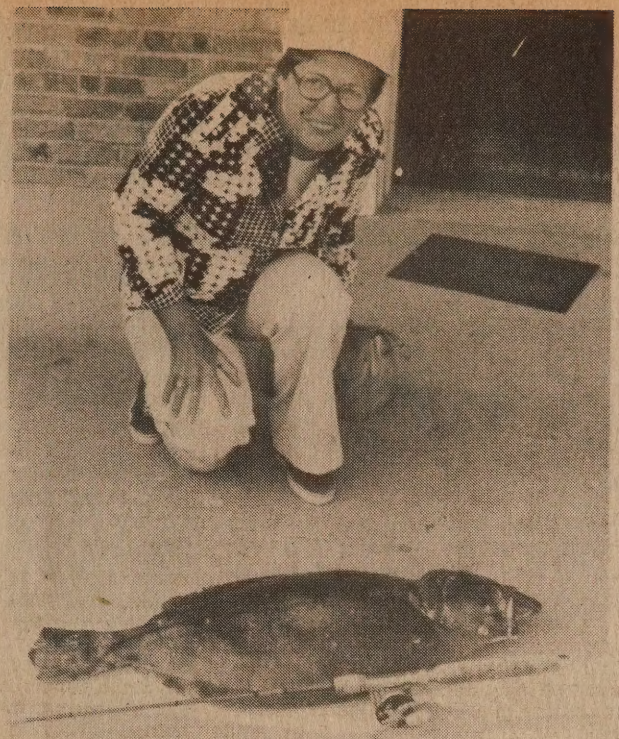
Basically, there are two prime areas for taking doormats at Montauk this time of the year: the North Side where a series of shoals creates many rips, and the South Side. In recent years, the late-season hotspot for taking doormats has been the South Side, but this year the action seems to be concentrated in the North Rips, but this concentration could change momentarily. The rips around the Midway Buoy area are also producing many large doormat class fluke, but there isn't much in the quantity department. While the South Side is producing a few nice fish, the fishing could stand quite a bit of improvement. The area that is usually hot once things get going, is around the sixty-foot line right off the radar installation. As a rule-of-thumb, the North Side rips are the most productive during incoming water and the South Side is most productive during the outgoing. Other areas often neglected at Montauk for doormats is Ditch Plains in fifty to sixty feet of water, and two prime areas off Block Island—the

Big baits take big fluke! This doormat was taken by the author on a strip bait more than a foot long that was cut from a sand shark.

Hooter Buoy off the southeast corner of the Island and Sands Point on the northern point.

One thing about doormat fluke—fishing is slow when compared to mid-summer fluking, but there is a reason. As a rule-of-thumb, you won't find many doormat class fluke mixed in with smaller fish—the larger doormats just can't stand the competition that the smaller, more energetic fish create. So if you find yourself catching quite a few fish in the short to three pound class, you're not in doormat country, and it's time for a move. That is if you are serious about catching a really big fluke. I know that it can be very difficult to leave biting fish like that, but if you want to catch big fish, you have to FISH for big fish, and sometimes this calls for sacrifices to be made.

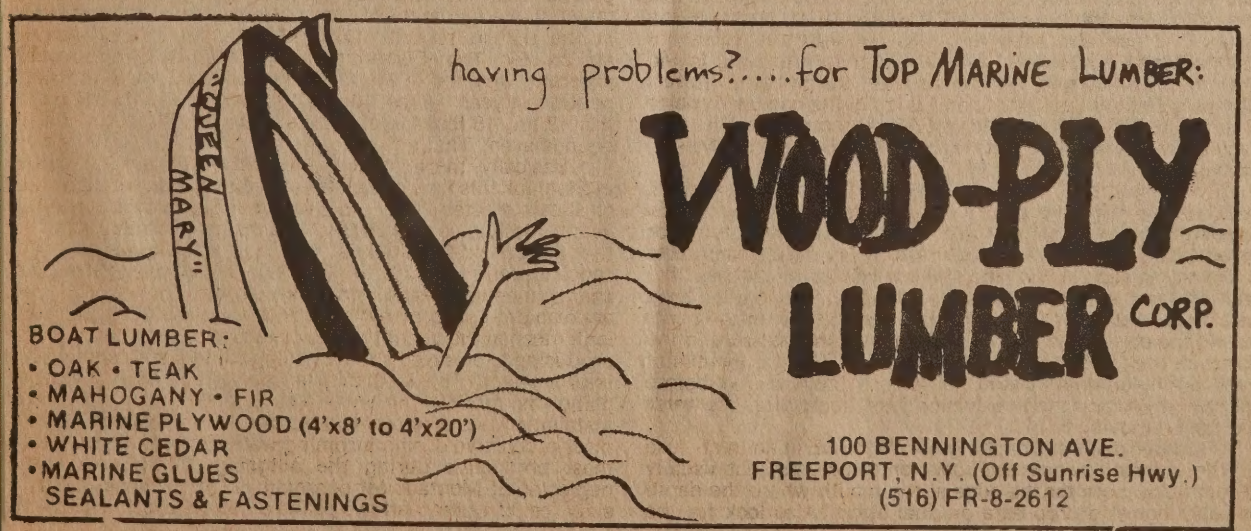
There are two important pieces of equipment absolutely necessary to doormat fluking. The first is a LARGE, and I mean large, landing net. If you try to steer a fluke with a width of eighteen inches into a net with a twenty-four inch hoop, you've got problems—the fish just aren't going to be that accommodating! Use a large net and place it in the water about three or four feet in front of, and slightly below the fluke to be landed. Then, using the rod, "walk" the fish towards the net opening. Usually, when the fluke sees it he will make a sudden dive with a remarkable burst of speed, actually swimming into the net for you if it has been properly positioned. Whatever you do, don't grab hold of the leader to walk the fish, because this gives him something solid to pull against, and if the fish has only been lightly "skin" hooked, it may tear out. Many times I have thought that we might be much better off gaffing the doormats of over ten pounds, but this can also lead to problems if you aren't good at it. The



By doing everything "right", Mabel Andretta of Bellrose caught this 18 lb. 15 oz. doormat fluke that may win her the grand prize in the L.I.F./STARFISH MARINE Fishing Contest. She used a live snapper in Jones Inlet on outgoing water. If approved by the International Game Fish Association, the fluke will become the new 20-lb. Class Women's World Record, putting her in line to win either a Mako 20 or a Grady-White center console. (See page 36.)

second piece of essential equipment is a good billy club. After the doormat is in the boat, give him a few good clouts on the head before trying to remove the hook. NEVER try to remove the hook from a green fluke, particularly if you are using a tandem hook rig as advised. Fluke have the habit of playing possum and will often come to life just at the instant when the point of the hook is strategically placed where it can do the most damage. If the fish is really hooked deep, I advise cutting off the hook and re-rigging.

Good fluking!



★★★★★★★★★★
HOW-TO SPECIAL FEATURE
★★★★★★★★★★

MOUNTING A SET OF SHARK JAWS

In this corner
Capt. Art Munda
Captain of the charterboat DARIUS II at Montauk Point

A properly finished jaw mount can make a most attractive and impressive memento of an offshore fishing trip. You can have it done for about a hundred bucks by a taxidermist who will mount the jaws on a nice wooden plaque for you. I do it unwillingly for my charters, but I would much rather give them the information on how to do it themselves for free. It is not difficult; it is just tedious and time-consuming.

For your mount to be at all impressive, your sharks should weigh in at about 200 pounds for a blue, and more than 150 pounds for a mako or brown, because of the difference in the shape of the jaws.

Now for the necessary materials. You need:

A filleting knife.
One Exacto or matting knife—that's the job with the removable single edged blade.
One pair of needle-nosed pliers.
A couple of quarts of bleaching peroxide (not medicinal). Purchase this in a cosmetic department.
A can of clear spray lacquer or varnish.
A bottle of antiseptic and a package of band aids—these are for your fingers. Your shark is still going to get a piece of you.
One large shark, preferably dead. He is easier to work on that way. The best way to procure your shark is to charter the Darius II for an offshore trip.

Now, let me get away from the jaw mount for a paragraph or so. Sharks are mostly live bearers. They are very slow growing; the number of offspring is not very large, and they are slow reproducers. Gestation period for some species is up to two years; therefore, sharks can be overfished. So, if you are not going to eat them or mount them, please release them or ask your captain to do it. He will be more than glad to save himself the trouble of towing them back to the dock and then out to sea again the next day.

Good action pictures can be taken during the fight, and they are much better than pictures of dead fish on a dock. Operate your camera from the flybridge for best results. I have some beauties which The Long Island Fisherman should print in subsequent issues.

Before removing the jaws, make sure your shark is dead. Remove the head first. And be careful; even with the head severed, there may be muscular contractions—so keep your fingers outside the jaws while you are removing them. On a charter, the mate or captain will cut out the jaws for you. If you do it yourself, start under the lower jaw at the center, and cut out to the corners. Allow plenty of room going around the corners of the mouth. There is a flared piece of cartilage on the lower jaw which is rather

thin. Avoid damaging it. Then follow the shape of the upper jaw with your knife, cutting away as much flesh as possible.

This is rough butchery—the dirty work comes later. When you transport your jaws, pack them in ice or keep them in water. Next step is to trim away all the flesh. Do it carefully; avoid cutting into the cartilage that the jaw is composed of. Then take the Exacto knife and pliers and carefully cut away the inside covering of the several other rows of teeth in the jaw. When you trim the lower jaw, leave a patch of skin about two inches wide at the center. A shark's jaw is hinged at the center of the top and bottom, as well as on the sides. If you are not careful, you can wind up with four pieces of jaw. When you have it trimmed to your satisfaction—and this can take several hours—place it in a solution of half and half peroxide and water for a couple of hours. This will bleach it out. Then, to stop the action of the peroxide, soak them in clear water for a couple more hours. If you take several days, always leave them in clean water when you are not operating on them. You will always see another little patch of flesh to trim away—keep doing it till you're satisfied.

When the jaw is clean, bleached and rinsed, it is ready for drying. Place them on a flat piece of wood, drill or poke a couple of small holes in the flared cartilage at the sides and fasten yo jaws in the position you want them to d in. While wet, they are flexible and you don't fasten them down, they w distort as they dry. Dry them outdoor they will stink while drying. **Don't** p them in direct sunlight. Put your jaw and board in a box. Cover the top with cloth to keep out insects. Drying time is week or more, depending upon weathe The jaw will get brittle and show sm cracks on the thin cartilage when th are dry. Then take them off the boar suspend them from a piece of string a spray with your clear spray: dor stint—put on several coats.

You can then mount them with sm screws on a finished plaque or a piece Plexiglas in the shape of a shield. Pai the back of the Plexiglas black to make contrast with the jaws. Then, inside t open jaws mount a picture of your par and/or the fish, together with the dat weight, species, etc.

If you have the patience, the effort worth the result.

As I said, I do it and still wind up wi cut fingers, so be careful. Do not repeat—do not bury them in your ba yard for a week, do not leave them in t water for a week or so. The cartila decomposes rapidly and you will wind with nothing but a few teeth. You c also freeze them and store them till y are ready to operate on them.

Sinker Bouncing

with Matt Ahern

SMOKE YOUR OWN FISH

★PART ONE★

At one time or another, every fisherman has toyed with the idea of trying his hand at fish smoking. Few attempt it, no doubt feeling there is some complicated process involved. Not so. Fish smoking is simplicity itself. Anyone with the freedom of a back yard can smoke fish.

Expense is minimal. I've often used nothing more elaborate than a large cardboard box or, for a more permanent arrangement, a clean, discarded fifty-five gallon drum. A packing case, made air-tight, can be used. If you're handy, a small smokehouse of wood may easily be constructed, its size determined by the maximum amount of fish you expect to process. Old refrigerators are often converted into good smokehouses, but I would hesitate to use them today because of the necessity of either removing the door, or of replacing the locking handle with some sort of clip and hook arrangement. They are also unwieldy to move about, and unless hidden from view, become an eyesore.

Also available are small, commercially-built smokers, often offered through mail order or from sporting goods stores. These use a built-in electric hot plate for heat; the fuel usually supplied are hickory chips. Their one drawback is their lack of capacity—holding about twenty pounds of fish. For the serious fisherman, intending to smoke a large amount of fish, this is inadequate. For the angler wanting to smoke a lesser amount, these smokers will do a good job.

No matter which is used, you are assured of excellent results if preparation and smoking instructions are closely followed. Keep in mind that there are as many ways to prepare fish for smoking as there are to skin the proverbial cat, but those listed below have worked for me and will for you.

If you plan on converting a fifty-five gallon drum into a smokehouse, be sure to get the interior as clean as possible. Any odor will carry over to the fish and spoil the taste—perhaps becoming toxic.

Drums that have contained liquid soap products are easiest to scour clean. Those that contained petroleum products are more difficult. Get one that has contained these easy-to-scour products, if you possibly can. I got mine from the local school by checking with the custodians. I believe the cost was fifty cents to cover the deposit on the drum.

The top and bottom must be removed. This can be done with a sharp, half-inch cold chisel and sixteen ounce hammer. If you have—or can secure—a metal-cutting sabre saw, so much the better. Cut off as close to the rims as possible. Save one of these ends to be used later as a template when making a smoking rack for fillets.

Some fishermen save the top lid and have a large strap or "T" hinge brazed or bolted on, but I find it difficult to get a tight fit this way; there is always too much smoke seepage around the edges. It is important to contain the smoke so that it barely escapes.

It's much better to cover with an oversized piece of thin sheet metal. This is easily adjusted to allow the proper amount of smoke to escape. A piece of heavy cardboard will also serve the purpose. A thin wisp of smoke slowly dissipating to the outside air is of prime importance; it is often the difference between a good batch of fish and one that is poorly done.

The next step in converting your drum into a serviceable smokehouse is to find the drum's center and scribe or pencil a nine inch line down both exterior sides. Measure down five inches along this line and mark, preferably with a center punch.

To each side of this mark, measure five inches straight across and mark. Next, place the rule at the bottom of the center line and measure three inches straight across on each side. Mark again.

Do the same on the other side.

These eight marks on either side of center are drilled open and become supports for four rods that hold the fish suspended in smoke and also staggered so as to avoid the fish coming into contact with each other.

Drill bit size depends on the size of dowels or steel rods being used for this purpose. The choice of using dowels or steel rods is yours, but I've never had trouble with three-eighths hard-wood dowels. If you intend smoking heavy fish, such as large ling, or small cod, you may want to go to half-inch.

Any wooden dowel less than three-eighths in diameter is apt to sag under the combined weight of several fish, causing them to bunch together, making it impossible for the smoke to circulate on all sides of the fish and work its magic.

You will want a rack to hold fillets, so the next step is to mark off four places two inches below the top rim. These should be spotted evenly around the circumference of the drum, because the rack must be supported without tipping.

This is done by drilling one-quarter inch holes at the previously marked four places and inserting one-quarter by two inch roundhead bolts; tighten securely.

To make the rack, use the cut-off top as a pattern and place over a square piece of one-half inch hardware cloth slightly larger than the circumference of the drum. Mark all the way around with a piece of chalk.

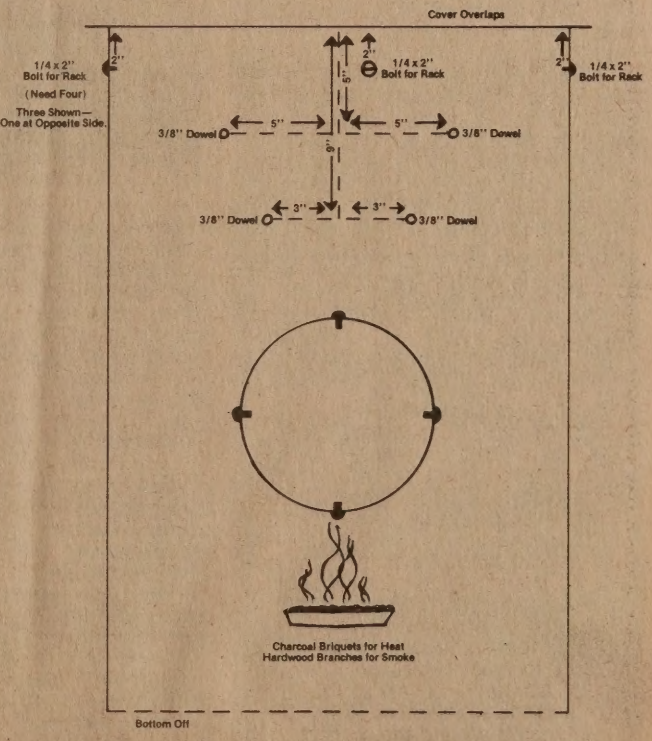
Cut the mesh with a tin snip, using the chalk mark as a guide. Start at the first mesh in from the guide mark. This will ensure clearance when placed inside the drum. Should you cut away too much, simply install longer bolts. This is the best method I know to smoke fillets properly.

Some smokers make another screen for the bottom, resting it high enough to be above the heat supply. Should any fish drop from the rods, they will be prevented from falling onto the dirt or into the fire.

The drum should always be placed on level ground. Don't make the mistake of placing it on a blacktop driveway or tarred surface. The heat will soften this substance and the smoke will pick up its odor, giving the fish the gosh-awfulest taste ever. Believe me, I know, having once made that horrible mistake.

Controlling the draft is easily done by placing a twig or other small object under the side away from the prevailing wind. You will soon learn how much draft is necessary for the proper volume of smoke.

55 GALLON DRUM AS SMOKER



TROLLING FOR STRIPED BASS

by Ron Onorato

★PART TWO★

In last week's article, we took a brief look at the terminal tackle that will be the mainstay of the wire line troller. In this concluding article, the actual fishing techniques and the various lures deployed will be discussed.

The first thing you must take into account, is to determine whether you're going to go after small fish or concentrate on bigger fish. Unfortunately, the choice seems to have been just about decided, as the number of small fish is so small that you might as well spend your time trying for a big fish.

Before you start fishing, your main consideration is to place your boat in an area you reasonably believe holds fish. At this time of year, the fish are migrating, and they can be found anywhere from fifteen feet of water, all the way out to sixty feet of water. As mentioned earlier, scientific use of the depth recorder will assist you in this area. It seems, however, the fish favor certain areas and are often found in the same place year after year—though seldom at the same time. For example, the area south of Gilgo and Tobay beaches at the eastern end of Jones Beach annually produces pretty good catches of big bass; sometimes the fish are found here in Mid-October, and other times, the fish won't show up until early November. The fish may be in one place today, and by tomorrow they can be twenty miles away. Naturally, the fish are moving in from the east, so the first place to look for the fish would be in those areas to the east, and if no signs of activity are forthcoming, moves should be made to the west. With the excessively large number of boats fishing these waters on a daily basis, there is seldom a lack of information concerning the latest whereabouts of the fish.

Suppose you have heard through the grapevine that some fish were caught in thirty feet of water south of the Jones Beach tower—this area will now become the center of operations, which will enable you to branch out in different directions if the fish fail to show. The first place to start fishing may not be known; so as a general rule of thumb, start from inshore and work your way offshore. One of the best trolling patterns you can learn to develop is the triangle method. You start your trolling pattern at a given level of water—say 20 feet—and continue on a straight line south until you hit 50 feet of water; from there, you angle the boat back inshore at roughly a 45 degree angle until you hit the 20 foot level again. By using this method, virtually all water depths have been covered. Some trollers favor a straight East-West trolling pattern in a given water depth and follow it up and down the beach for several miles: still others favor a straight North-South pattern moving from inshore to offshore and then back in again. Since all of these can be effective at times, it will pay you to keep all of them in mind. Perhaps the most important thing for the troller to develop is a sense of shore ranges. Quite simply, shore ranges are two or more land based objects lined up with each other to give you an exact location of an area on the water. You have to remember that the water along the South Shore is very similar, and even when aided by the depth recorder, it is still difficult to return to the same location. You must develop the knack for picking up ranges so that way when you hit a fish, or mark an unusually heav concentration of bait, you will be able t return to the general vicinity. Along th South Shore beaches there are plenty o landmarks, so you should have littl problem in picking any up.

George Oliver with pair of school fish, trolled on umbrella rigs.

The next question for consideration i the number of rods you should fish. M answer to that would be—as many a possible. When you're first setting out t locate the fish, you have no idea wha depth the fish are at; what color lure the want, and what type lure they may want The way to get all this straightened out—if that's at all possible—is b presenting a variety of lures to the fish a various depths. The only way to do this i by fishing as many rods as you ca comfortably put out.

If you're fishing alone, you should b able to set out two lines without an trouble, and three if you're really hungry. After that, figure another lin for each additional person on the boat. About the most you can fish is five lines,

and for most of us, I wouldn't recommend it. Three outfits are about the normal number of outfits that are usually fished.

The three rods are set out at something like this: number one rod is set out at 150 feet, number two rod at 225 feet, and number three rod is set out down the middle at varying lengths from 250 to 300 feet. With this arrangement, you have three different levels of water covered; the high rod will put the lure down about ten or twelve feet, while the second rod will have the lure down about eighteen or twenty feet, and the third deep rod will put the lure down between twenty-five and thirty feet. A point worth noting here, is that all lures do not go to the same depths with the same amount of wire line. A tube lure will ride much higher than a bunker spoon with the same amount of wire line, and a swimming plug will swim deeper than the spoon or umbrella rig on the same length of wire. As you use the various types of lures more frequently, you will learn how far down each one will ride on a given length of line. Now that you have three levels of water covered, it is a matter now of waiting for the fish to hit, and then adjusting the remaining lines to the same depth as the one that got the strike.

Regardless of the trolling pattern you desire to use, you should avoid mixing different lures while trolling. For example, you shouldn't troll a plug with a tube lure or an umbrella rig with a bunker spoon. Each lure has different action at different speeds, and by trolling two different lures at the same time, the action of one of them will be impaired. If you're trolling tubes, put out all the tubes, and the same goes for the other lures. Also, by using just one type of lure, you will be able to find out what color preference the fish have that particular time.

Very briefly, some of the basics have been covered, so now we'll move along to the various lures that have been most effective at this time of the year.

The Bunker Spoon: The oversize shoehorn is far and away the most popular lure amongst the legions of trollers along the South Shore and off the Jersey Coast. Quite naturally, the lure is at its best when there are bunkers in the water in fair supply. This is a big fish lure, with few fish less than fifteen pounds being taken on it. When there are big blues in the area, the bunker spoon drives them wild. The most popular bunker spoon of late is the Lupo bunker spoon. This lure can be fished right from the package with no other modifications necessary. The old-time favorite, the Rex spoon, is still around, but you'll have to alter it a bit. Most spoons come with just a single large hook at the end of the spoon. The result of this was usually many dropped fish and few landed. What happens is that the big single hook wears a nice size hole in the fish's mouth and, given a moment of slack, the fish was off. The Lupo bunker spoon was one of the first to incorporate a large treble hook attached to the end of the spoon by means of a swivel. Thus, many fish are hooked on the treble as well as the large single hook, and fewer fish are lost. Still, you're going to lose a good number of fish on the spoon, and these are usually the biggest ones. You should have a variety of colors to accommodate the preference of the fish. In addition to have an all-chrome spoon, you should have some that are painted white, yellow and gold on one side. When trolling, these, don't go too fast or they will spin—you want that wobbling side-to-side rhythm. With the profusion of small bunkers in the waters in recent years, the Lupo Co. is now in the process of manufacturing a smaller version of the big spoon and from the prototypes, it looks like a winner.

Big Swimming Plugs: Another big fish lure that has grown in popularity is the big deep water swimming plugs. Swimming plugs really excite the fish and will often tempt them into striking when they really aren't too lively. The one serious drawback with the plug is that you will lose better than fifty percent of the fish you hook, and on certain occasions, more. Two years ago while trolling the big plugs off Jersey, at one particular point, over ten fish were lost one after another. For the evening, twenty fish of over thirty hooked were lost on the plugs. It seems that the majority of fish go for the head hook and somehow they get enough leverage to yank that king-size treble from their lips. The fact that the plugs are so effective, however, makes up for this single drawback. Usually plugs are worked best during the evening hours—though they are effective at sunrise and sunset. They will work well during the daylight hours if the day is cloudy and overcast, especially during rainy periods. They are not as effective on bright, sunny days as they are otherwise, but will occasionally produce fish. What type to use? On Long Island, the Danny Swimming Plug is by far and away the most effective. Up to the North, some anglers favor the Stan Gibbs swimmers. Don't bother with the smaller sizes, but go right to the big ones. Fish as small as five pounds have hit the big, seven inch Danny swimmer on many occasions. Get as many colors as possible, including white, gold, yellow, and blue. I don't know if it is the color that the fish are after, or rather they are after a good swimming plug. I have taken plugs out of the bag that have not produced a single bass, while another identically colored plug knocked the dickens out of the fish. A point to remember here is that you can shorten up on the amount of wire you'll need to get the plug down. The plug, by its very design, swims deep as it is towed through the water.

Umbrella Rigs: When there are schools of sand eels in the water, there is no other trolling lure as effective as the umbrella rig. This rig simulates, and quite effectively, a school of sand eels. This is predominantly a small-to-medium size fish getter, though occasionally big fish will fall to the rig. When the fish are heavy and on the feed, double and often triple hook-ups are possible. One of the latest modifications to the umbrella of late, has been the dropping back of the center lure, which usually is a Bingle lancer lure, some two feet behind the rest of the tube lures. This apparently simulates a straggling sand eel, lagging behind the rest of the school. Most of the fish caught are taken on the dropped-back tube lure. Some favorite colors include all red, black, purple, green, and red/white mixed. Try to match the size of the tubes to the size of the sand eels in the water.

Big Tube Lures and Plastic Eels: This is the unsung hero of all the big fish getters, and it is the least popular. To the knowing bass fisherman, he would rather have a few of his favorite tube lures than any other type. The big plus to the tubes is the fact that very few hooked fish are lost; I would say that ninety-five percent of hooked fish are landed on the rubber. Perhaps the reason for its unpopularity is the fact that it is a little difficult to troll. The tubes, as well as the plastic eels have to be trolled very, very slowly. Some boats can't get down to that slow rpm that is necessary to effectively fish these lures. There are many tube lures on the market, and some are very effective. The Tri-Fin tube eels are perhaps the best commercially made tube lures on the market. The old Alou plastic eel was another fairly consistent producer. Then, of course, there are the homemade tubes that most of us use. As far as colors go, black and red are the most effective.

That just about covers the big four that are the most widely used lures for the fall run bass. To cover them properly, a full-length book would be required, and there are plenty of these volumes on the market. Trolling is the most exacting part of bass fishing. Everything has to be just right, or you will fail. There are so many variables that could go wrong, that if you don't approach things scientifically, your results will be sparse, even during the height of the fall run. Patience is the first requisite, for without this all your efforts will be doomed. To the fisherman who has caught few, if any, big bass by trolling, this may seem like a difficult task. You have to be persistent, and you have to have faith that the things you're doing are right. If you approach things with a negative attitude, then you better put the wire line away and go flounder fishing.

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SOUTH BAY BONANZA

by Paul Rosendahl

If Neptune ever wanted to make a chowder for the gods, all he would have to do is wait till September, scoop up Great South Bay and simmer slowly. I know of nowhere else that provides such great "mixed bag" fishing in the late summer and early fall. At this time of year, the sinker bouncer can get weaks, stripers, fluke, kings, blues (both snappers and decent sized ones), blowfish, eel, sea bass and porgies. If that's not enough variety—you're just too fussy. Quantity is also there; one or two trips should fill up any empty spaces in your freezer.

The interesting thing about this kind of fishing is that you never really know what's going to hit next. You can prepare for this situation by using the right kind of tackle and rig. In general, you aren't going to land many "sea monsters," so light tackle is in order. The one exception to this might be if you live line snappers for big weaks. I generally use two rods: the first is a spinning rig—a fast-taper six foot rod, with a 300 Mitchell loaded with six pound mono. The other is a light six foot conventional jigging rod which I made years ago mounted with a Penn 9MS and a 14 pound mono. Sometimes I also pack an extremely ultra-light outfit, just for fun. The spinner is used for tossing lures while the conventional rig is for bottom fishing with bait.

The spinning rig is along mainly for the weakfish. In the early fall, these tend to be moderate-sized, usually up to four pounds. Many types of lures will get results from the weaks. Among the best are small plastic shrimp and diamond jigs, though my personal favorite is still a long yellow bucktail. Any of these lures seem to produce better on the weaks when "sweetened" with a strip of squid. If you get into blues with any size to them, a short wire leader is a must to avoid lost lures and bad language.

When you set up a bottom rig for bait fishing, the idea is to provide "something for everyone." You can't expect a blowfish to ingest a 1/0 weakfish hook. I generally use a hi-lo rig as sketched. Squid is almost always the best all-around bait for this kind of fishing. On the bottom hook, it will take weaks, kings and fluke. On the top hook, sea bass, porgies and snappers.

If you're out mainly for one or two species of fish, you can change the baits accordingly. Porgies and blowfish are very partial to worms (if you can afford them) or clam, so you might use one of these on your top hook. If you're especially hot for fluke, you can add a sand eel to the bottom strip of squid or replace it with a strip of fluke belly. If your taste runs to snappers, use spearing on the top hook. As with any bottom fishing, it probably pays to have more than one kind of bait along, in case the fish get finicky. In general, though, squid gives you the best chance for a mixed bag catch.

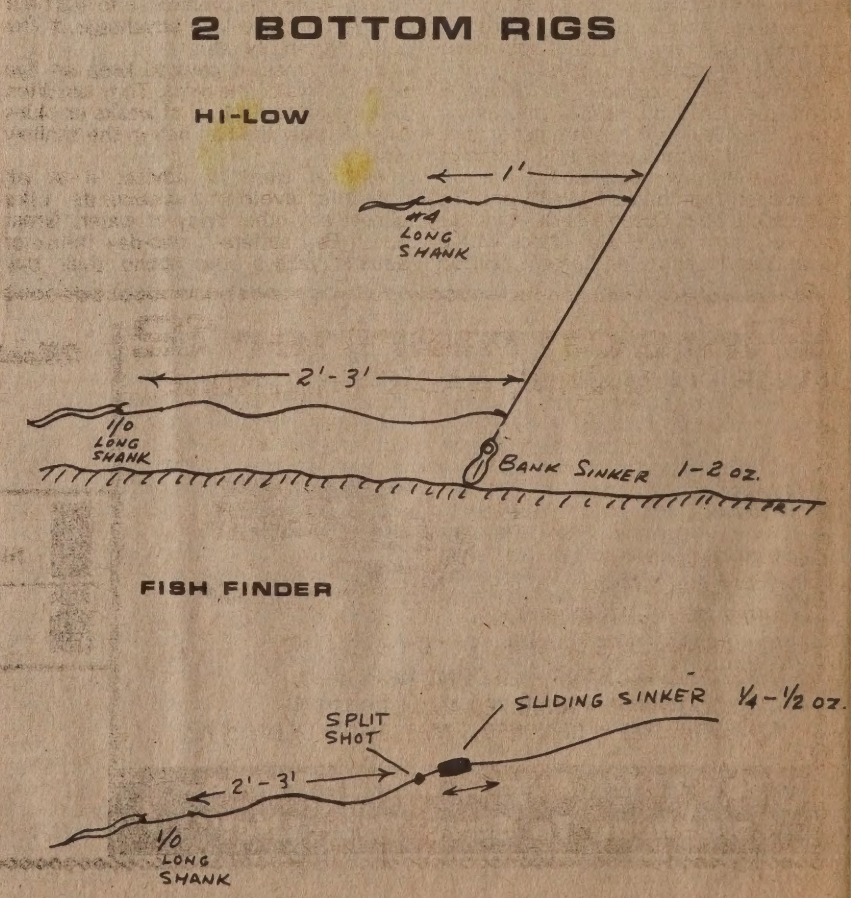
You can save a lot of time and fuss by preparing your squid beforehand at home. I buy those three pound, frozen boxes in the supermarket and cut the squid into baits the night before. Empty half pound margarine containers are ideal for packing the bait; these are kept on ice so that a fresh bait is always handy.

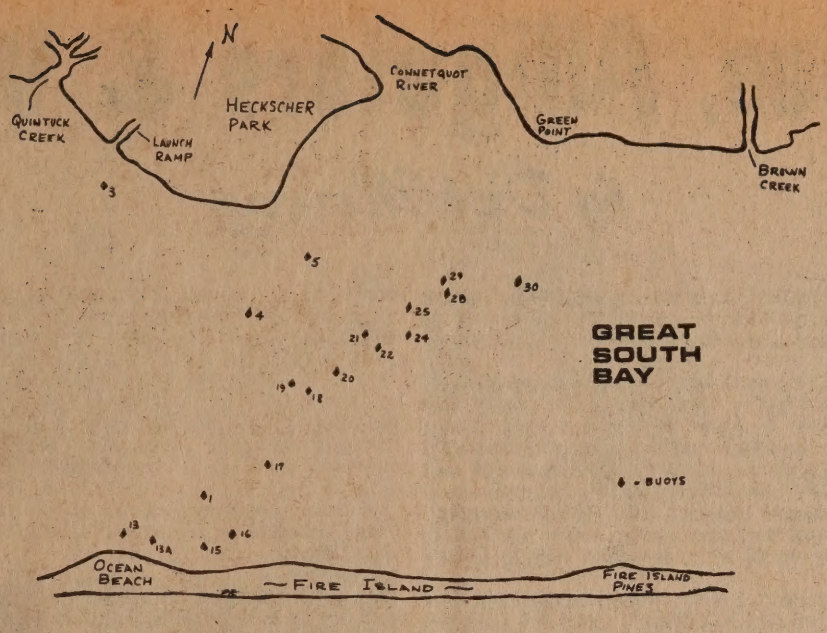
To drift or not, is a question that the weather should answer for you. If the wind is fairly light, a drift will get more action—especially from the weaks and fluke. If the wind kicks up—as it does most afternoons—the best bet is to find a likely spot and drop the hook. A five mile per hour drift doesn't often produce much!

Whether drifting or anchored, don't put too much lead on the bottom rig. With fourteen pound line, I usually use from one-half to two ounces. Anything heavier just keeps you from feeling light hits. To cover more bottom when anchored, you can use an old, but effective technique. Let your line out till the sinker hits bottom. After a minute or so, strip a yard or two of line from the reel and let the bait drift down-tide. Repeat this each minute or so till you get a hit, or no longer feel the sinker bumping bottom; then reel in and try again.

A method that often pays off is to drift till you hit a "hotspot." Then you can either drop the hook, or toss over a marker buoy to line yourself up for repeated drifts over the spot.

If you feel like a sport, and can afford the expense, bunker chum often livens things up. Frozen chum logs lowered to the bottom in a chum pot can definitely pull in fish from a distance, or keep a school working near your boat. To make the logs last longer, wrap each one in a





fine mesh onion sack before it goes into the chum pot. Knowing the price of bunker, would you prefer free chum? I thought so! On any day but Sunday, Great South Bay is full of clammers. They stir up the bottom as they work and create a natural chum stream full of worms, shrimp and other goodies. Drifting a hundred yards or so down-current will often bring quick action. Remember, though, these guys are out earning their living, so don't get close enough to interfere with them.

"Where's the action?" is always a good question. I do most of my fishing out of Sayville—so my recommendations are for that general area only. Some of the consistently good spots are off Heckscher, from buoys 20 to 30, and the deep spots near Ocean Beach—but this can vary from day to day. Check with a local tackle shop or livery station operator for the latest "hotspots." Use Chart #120-SC.

Weather can be an important factor, mainly because of the winds. A typical day starts off calm. Then, as the land heats up, a strong onshore "sea breeze" develops in the afternoon. This can make drifting too fast, kick up a nasty chop, and generally cause poor fishing. The way to avoid this problem is to start out at first light and take advantage of the calm morning hours.

At all times, it pays to keep an eye open and watch the birds. They can often be a tip-off to a school of weaks or blues working over the bait fish in the shallow waters.

A final word of advice: if at all possible, avoid the weekends. Like almost any other body of water, Great South Bay suffers a two-day influx of aquatic yahoos who spend their day roaring around in aimless circles. In waters that average ten feet deep or less, this constant boat traffic disrupts the fishing something awful. So steal off on a weekday and enjoy some of the best fishing the Island has to offer.

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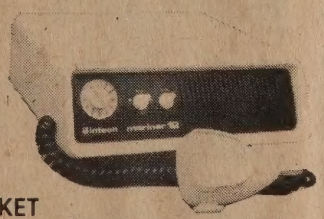

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Uglies, Alligators & Wire

by Dick Mermon

When it comes to testing a new piece of equipment for the fishing public, there is but one place to do it; one fish to do it on; one boat to do it with, and three types of fishermen to do it by.

Take first the fishermen—such as Joe Namath and company, the company being Tight End, Rich Caster and Wide Receiver, Jerome Barkum. Rich and I have fished several years together and Rich can truly be called one who has knowledge and experience of how to handle both fish and tackle. Joe received his initiation last year, but has done more average fishing in warmer waters. Jerry Barkum veritably paid his dues in the New York area on this tackle test trip. It was his first introduction to what saltwater fishing is like hereabouts.

Captain Frank Braddick did the honors aboard his new boat "Hurry Up" and I was certainly glad he had the twenty-eight footer, for it was a wee bit sloppy.

If there are any similar tackle-busting species of fish in the marine world compass other than giant bluefish—I have not found them. Any fishing rod which will withstand the strenuous abuse these fish can apply will endure milder misemployment.

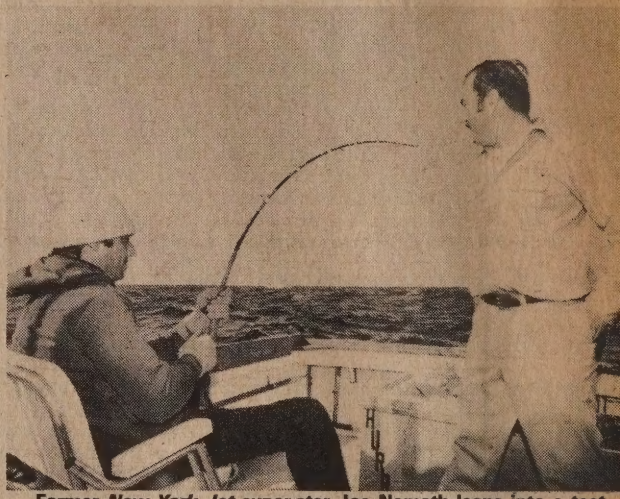
As for finding fish with dispositions like alligators—Montauk Point is the place. These enormous blues move into the easterly tip of Long Island waters about the middle of July and remain through November—providing there are no severe cold spells or storms to drive them out.

"Ugly Sticks" are their names and were the rods that had to be put through their paces. They are Shakespeare's newest addition to the now-famous "bottle blank" family. BWC 1100, are six foot, six inch, one-piece contour shaped, trolling and boat rods. Fashioned by the Howald Process, they are a combination of two basic known materials. A spiral core of graphite fiber threads is covered by uni-directional, colorless, single strands of Fiberglas filaments. The blank—heavy as it may seem—is actually lighter in weight and its dark-green color, with a small section of the tip clear, give it a most ugly appearance; through addition of cosmetics (guides, winding, etc.), it becomes an "ugly duckling" type piece of equipment.

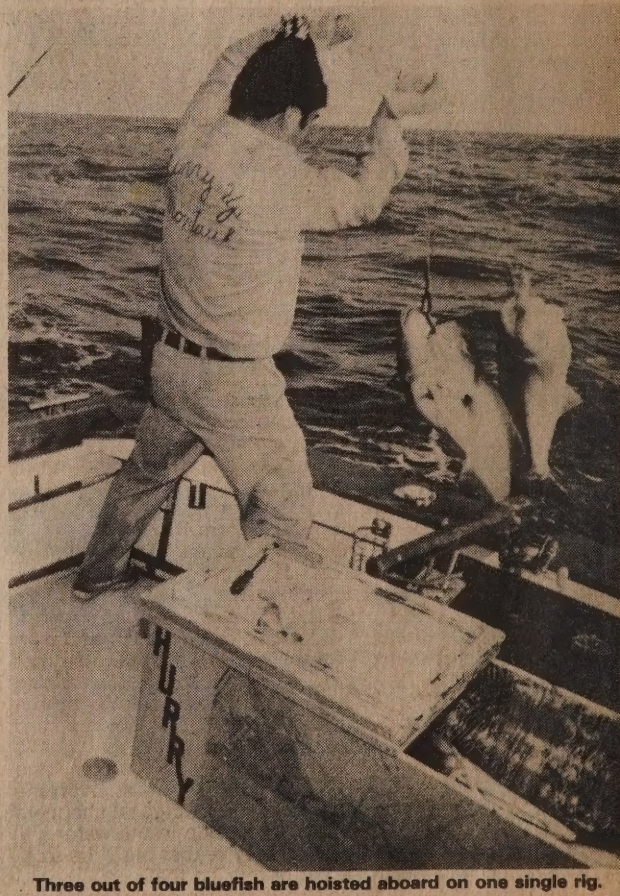
First choice was to diamond jig fish, if they were available. We circled about several boats just off Shagwong and North Rips, watching active fishermen reeling and dropping jigs as fast as they could, without success. Sitting, and lazily-flying birds indicated a lack of briskness from both bluefish and striped bass. Bait was not on the surface, but probably could be seen several feet under the water by these birds. They, too, were awaiting tidal change and possibly a mode of action.

Off to the east, several boats were working the Submarine Buoy; therefore, Captain Braddick suggested it might be better to troll wire and multiple tubes down deep and across the rips until the tide changed. Most of the fish caught the past few days were on the receding tide, along dropoff structure. Here big blues spend most of the time in readiness for schooling bait fish. Freshwater fishermen call this type of location a "food shelf."

With the wind blowing from the west-northwest, the seas and direction of drift made it impossible to diamond jig near the Buoy. Wire was the way to go and so it had to be: 6/0 reels were affixed to a pair of Ugly Sticks and multiple tubes attached. Each reel contained 500 feet of monel wire and a 60 pound test, 15 foot mono leader. The wire had been previously marked at intervals especially measured for all Montauk areas. Each stretch of wire line had been calibrated by Captain Braddick and a different color plastic tape placed thereon. Experience in the art of wire lining this particular locale by Braddick called for a long line, marked by a wide strip of blue tape.

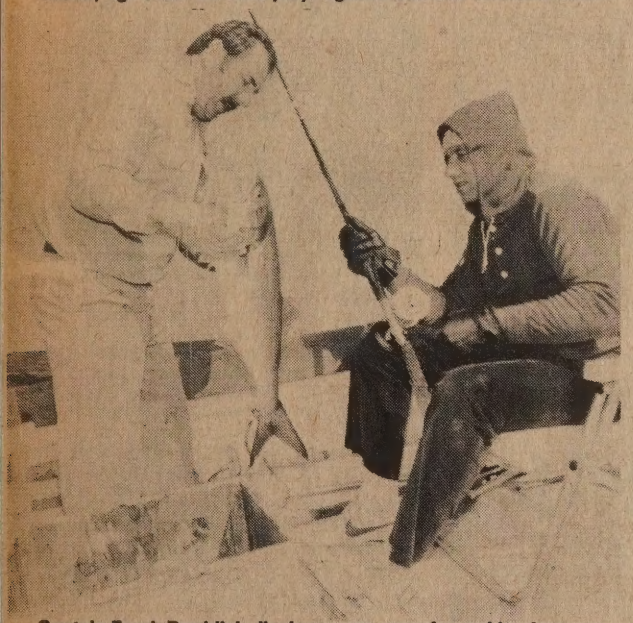


Former *New York Jet* super-star Joe Namath leans into a test blank of an *Ugly Stick* to see how much abuse it will take as Captain Frank Braddick eyes the arching rod.

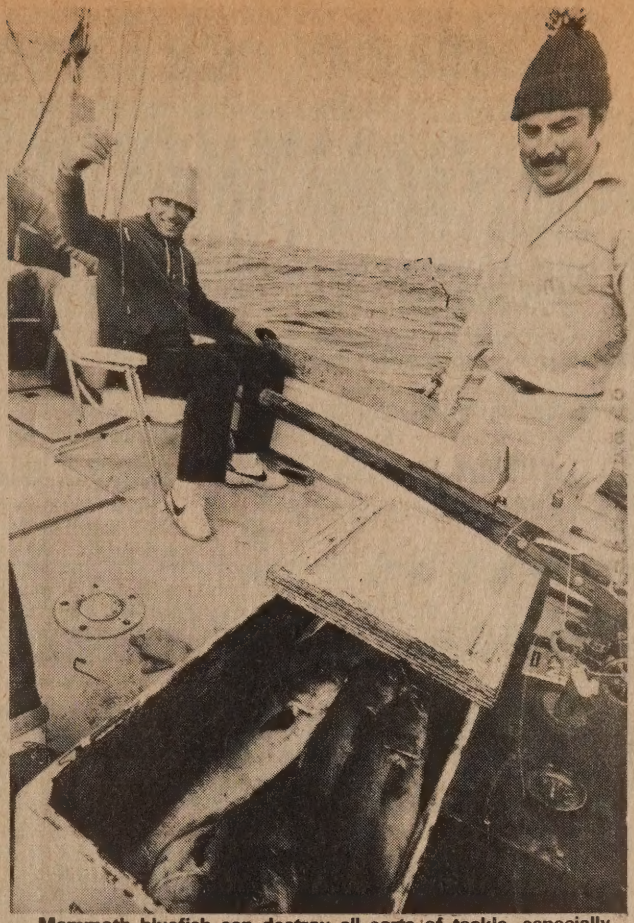


Three out of four bluefish are hoisted aboard on one single rig.

Joe Namath and company (Jerome Barkum, center, and Rich Caster, right) test out their plays against monster Montauk blues.



Captain Frank Braddick displays a ten pounder and its dentures.



Mammoth bluefish can destroy all sorts of tackle, especially stainless stainless steel umbrella rigs, which Joe holds a piece of.

While Captain Braddick maneuvered the boat into a position near the Sub Buoy, I let out the wire to its proper indication mark. With the flow of the current, movement of the boat's speed against the water flow, depth of the water and location of the fish, must all be taken into consideration. Once the blue tab showed, I locked the reel and handed the rod to Namath.

Before I reached the exact indicator on the second reel, Joe yelled, "Hey, I'm stuck on the bottom."

"Stuck heck," I said, "you're into a fish." The Ugly Stick bent in a pain-creating arch and the reel screamed in defiance—even with the drag tight down.

Handing over the second rod to Caster, it, too, no more than left my hands when a fish took hold: a double-header on the first pass over the food shelf. Neither of the two fish that were on came to the surface during the arm-wearying struggle, indicating large fish on the tubes. Joe's fish came alongside—never surfacing—even with the steady forward movement of the boat into the current.

Captain Braddick glove-handled the mono leader, and with one hefty life hoisted four mammoth blues over the gunwale at one time. As he did so, one of the biggest choppers (naturally) flipped backwards and wound up in the water.

"You never get them all when they're that big," he said. "We were lucky to get three out of four on that one."

The fish were ten to fifteen pounds each and upon hitting the fish box, even split the rigging—which was made of stainless steel wire. Once more Frank acted as the mate and hoisted two more ten pounders over the side for Rich.

While Frank unhooked the blues and the rigs, I snapped on new tubes and dropped the wire line back, for Jerry Barkum had to be initiated into this field test club also. The metal line's mark was reached quickly and reel locked into place. Completing this chore of unhooking fish from the tubes, Frank positioned the boat just north of the Buoy. He looked at the recorder and said to drop the line marker back about twenty feet further; this will allow the tubes to descend a tiny bit deeper, possibly getting down to some stripers.

I fastened a new umbrella rig to the leader of Joe's rod and dropped it back the same distance as the other: again, both Ugly Sticks bent in an overtaxed position, almost simultaneously. The school was massed into one tight location, at one depth. The blues were there to take the tubes before any bass had a chance. Swimming plugs were out of the question, because they would eat them up.

Once more, it was a double hook-up, but each—upon boating—had two blues at the same time. If we passed outside the shelf or the lures were too high (not enough wire to reach the depth), there was no strike or takers. These blues wanted the tubes at the right position and depth.

For two-and-a-half hours, a three-man Jet football team took on the Montauk Blues and came out victorious. The Ugly Sticks withstood the strain and torture from both alligator-size bluefish, and fishermen's abuse. The blues gave up to the Jets' oncoming fish fry; whereas the Jets gave up to the fatigued ache of muscles they never knew were there.

In a democratic fashion, Joe, Rich, and Jerry elected me driver of the vehicle to carry fish, bodies and tackle home. I had to accept the nomination for the job, because I happened to be the smallest of the group, and who could refuse that kind of democracy.

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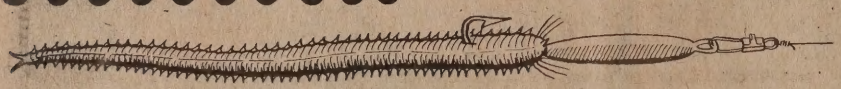

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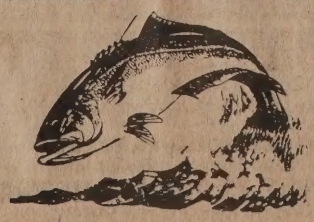

SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

MONTAUK

BLUEFISH

Capt. Paul Sundberg of the charterboat **Montauk** called to say that bluefishing on Friday and Saturday with Ava diamond jigs was great at the Triangle. Using Ava-67 jigs, 86 blues were put in the box on Friday and 74 were bagged on Saturday. Paul said that the charter parties were very happy with the diamond jigging and were glad that Paul wouldn't troll wire. Paul said the action was wild, and using the jigs with 30 lb. test allows the anglers to participate in the fishing.

Bob at **Lake Montauk Marina** reported that the bluefishing was tremendous at the Triangle over the weekend. The Submarine Buoy is also producing good catches, and quite a few bonito are being taken by those trolling umbrella rigs for the blues.

Capt. Jimmy Behan of the **Peconic Queen III** said that on Saturday he had a bluefish charter and scored very good with the fish. Fishing first at Cartwright, anglers loaded up on big blues in the 10 to 15 lb. class using herring for bait. When they lost the tide there, Jimmy took the boat to the Sub Buoy where the anglers murdered the fish on diamond jigs. The fish were nice sized, 12 to 15 pounds and up to 18.

Henry Colombi at the **Star Island Yacht Club** confirmed the great bluefishing in the Triangle area. Capt. Artie Gerstmann of the charterboat "Bumble Bee" filled three shopping carts with bluefish and had a few bonito and weakfish that were mixed in with the blues.

Charterboat **Eljon** fishing out of West Lake Fishing Lodge called to say that they had a load on blues this past weekend fishing Midway. Trolling umbrellas, the filled the box with 8-13 lb. bluefish. "All you wanted," reported Capt. John Bertes.

Capt. Ron Grandinetti of the charterboat **Julie III** called to say that he has been doing a bang up job on the bluefish in the Triangle

Stan and Stu Bergen show off a seven pound fluke on the Viking Starlite. The vessel has been cashing in on the recent good run of large fluke at Montauk.

This 48 lb. striped bass was caught aboard the "Vivienne" by Bob Boyle using a new tube jig. Subscriber Club Photo.

area. On Monday, he and two friends caught 670 pounds of big choppers. Ron said that the trick is to cruise around with your recorder until you see the fish then squid them with diamond jigs.

Capt. Frank Macaro of the charterboat **Free Spirit** reported the inshore fishing is dynamite. Despite the weather on Wednesday an inshore half day trip produced 28 bluefish and quite a few green bonito. Fishing inshore again on Friday, the box was filled with bluefish and the green bonito that were mixed in with them. Frank has a few open dates in September and October for both inshore and offshore trips, so give him a call at 929-4881.

Capt. Warren Hader of the charterboat **Devilfish** reported that the bluefishing in the Triangle on friday and Saturday was phenomenal. Saturday's catch was 92 big bluefish taken for a charter by the Signal Alarm Corp. On Friday, Jack Schwartz and his two sons and daughter from Brooklyn bagged 67 bluefish in the same area.

Charterboat **Adios** reports that they are loading up on blues both Friday and Saturday fishing the Triangle, the Pocketbook and Shagwong. Loads of fish.

FLUKE

Fluke fishing has been fair to good with the fish moving around since the high winds last week, but it looks like the best fluking is still in front of us. After the big blow last week, the fluke showed up in the unusual area where they are not normally found—about half way between the inner and outer Shagwong buoys. Boats fishing there on outgoing tide loaded up on fish on Thursday and Friday. Before the big blow, the best fluking had been in the North Rips. Then on Saturday, the fluke left Shagwong and finally

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Wayne and Al fish with Capt. DeMaio on the charterboat "Vivienne" and caught thirty-six blues and three bass on Ava diamond jigs.

showed up on the South Side in 40 to 60' of water.

Hank Nevelle at **Gone Fishing Marina** reported that the fluke fishing was down on Sunday because anglers had difficulty locating them. Those that hit it right had 3 to 4 nice fluke a man, but no real doormats.

Henry Colombi of the **Star Island Yacht Club** reported that late in the week Capt. John Phillips on the "Capt. John" was killing the fluke between the two cans at Inner and Outer Shagwong. Best action was on outgoing water with doormats up to 8 pounds taken. Bert Rockfield on the "Serenity" fished the South Side on Sunday for the last few hours of the outgoing tide and bagged 16 fluke. Bert had several fish in the 8 to 10 lb. class. The "Friendship" also loaded up on fluke on the South Side on Sunday with many fish in the 8 to 10 lb. class.

PORGIES & SEABASS

Capt. Bud Dorman of the **Viking Skipper II** reported that he has been fishing around Great Eastern and the Midway Grounds with excellent catches. The jumbo porgies are on the increase and it looks like the fall run is approaching its peak. On Saturday, for instance, some anglers went home with 100 pound catches or better, most of which were big humpback porgies.

Capt. Ron Grandinetti of the **Julie III** said that he has been murdering the porgies all week. On Tuesday he and his friend Frank caught 590 pounds of porgies and sea bass fishing a few of Ron's pet spots in the Midway area.

Hank Neville of **Gone Fishing Marina** reported that the porgy fishermen are bringing in catches by the garbage can. Fish are virtually everywhere from Great Eastern to Midway, and it looks like a good fall run.

Bob at **Lake Montauk Marina** reported that porgy fishing is very, very good on all the pieces in the Midway area and around Great Eastern. Some nice sea bass are also being taken at the Midway Grounds by those going for fluke.

WEAKFISH

Virtually all of the reports that we received from charterboats that have been diamond jigging or trolling umbrella rigs in the Triangle said that a few weakfish are now mixed in with the blues. But not in the quantities that they have been in the past.

CODFISH

Capt. Jimmy Behan of the **Peconic Queen III** reported that the codfishing was very good on Sunday at Sharks Ledge off Block Island. Coxe's Ledge has been slow, so Jimmy has been fishing both areas depending on which produced best last. Jimmy said that because there are so many fish at Sharks Ledge, it looks like we might be having an early fall run of good codfishing in the Block Island Grounds. This Sunday, Sept. 25th, the first Nantucket Wreck Trip will leave the dock at 10 P.M. There are a few openings left, so call 668-2078 to make your reservation for this great giant cod and pollack fishing.

Capt. Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Fleet** called to say that his Tackle Buster Special which left Sept. 18th and returned on the 19th for giant cod and pollack was a super trip. Paul said he pulled loads of alligator cod and fares really bagged up. Watch our next issue for photos being submitted, and check the **Viking Fleet** ad for the next sailing on the Nantucket Wreck Trips which should be dynamite.

STRIPED BASS

Most of the boats have been pre-occupied with the great bluefishing, but we have received some reports of bass being taken by the local sharpies. Capt. Warren Hader of the charterboat **Devilfish** called us early Monday morning as we were going to press and said that a few of the boats brought in a couple of bass taken off the Point trolling. Hank Neville of **Gone Fishing Marina** reported that on the weekend a few bass were being picked at dawn and dusk in front of the Light and it looks like there will be good fishing during the next full moon.

Henry Colombi of the **Star Island Yacht Club** reported that one of the local sharpies has been having good bass fishing at night trolling plugs in the Pollack Rip. One night during the week 190 pounds of bass were taken and on Friday night the score was 400 pounds of nice fish in the 20 lb. class.

Capt. Gene Kelly on the **Sea Doll** also reported that there are few bass being taken at dawn and dusk and even at night by the sharpies. Gene said that starting this month he will be booking charters for night striped bass fishing. He will either be trolling plugs or fishing live eels.

OFFSHORE

Capt. Paul Sundberg of the charterboat **Montauk** called to say that he had Jack Fenwick of Maryland out on a one man 48 hour overnight trip to 40 Fathoms where they had 16 blue sharks, a brown, a tiger and a mako. The water temp dropped a bit and there should be some good mako shark fishing for a few weeks. A good amount of blue sharks are still around and they are now running from 180 to 225 pounds. They are all big males and fight with a vengeance this

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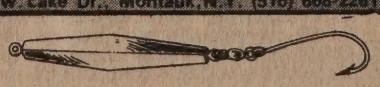

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SA-GEE CAPT. FRED RIEGE (516) 261-3662	**Sea Doll** CAPT. GENE KELLY (516) 668-2019	**Wee Mac** Capt. Harry McAllister (212) 225-1158

No, this isn't a MerMAN. It's Bob Stekel holding a 41 lb. codfish over the rail of the Peconic Queen. Bob's fish won the pool.

time of year. Paul said he will continue shark fishing until they are gone. He noted that the mako sharks are now in the 180 pound class. Paul says he presently has some weekdays open from September on.

Capt. Warren Hader of the charterboat **Devilfish** reported that blue shark fishing is terrific. The smallest fish being taken these days is at least 200 pounds, and the fishing is just like the old days. This time of year the blue sharks are all males and are very mean and fight hard. On Sunday the boat fished south of the Pt. in 190 feet of water and brought back 4 blue sharks and tagged and released 5, all over 200 pounds.

Bob at **Lake Montauk Marina** reported that the offshore fishing has been very good for yellowfin tuna, small bluefin tuna and true albacore. Many are being taken trolling Cedar Plugs, feathers, rigged ballyhoo and mullet. Big sharks are also being taken.

Capt. Gene Kelly of the charterboat **Sea Doll** confirmed good sharking. Fishing southeast of the point 16 miles out on Sunday the charter took a good blue shark and a brown shark.

Henry Colombi of the **Star Island Yacht Club** reported that the National Marine Fisheries Service has re-opened the giant bluefin season and will allow 85 more giants to be taken in this area. Not many anglers knew that the season was being re-opened Friday, so not many went for them on the weekend. Henry said that he heard that the "Celia P" out of the Deep Sea Club took a giant of 978 pounds on Friday in the hot area off Block Island. The fish was taken on 80 lb. test line, which is a U.S. record, and missed being a World Record by less than 50 pounds. On Friday the "My Marie" fished south of the Point and took 3 blue sharks up to 250 pounds. Henry said he hasn't heard of any school tuna being taken but during the week the "Patricia Marie" was chunking for giant tuna and had school tuna all around the boat, but they wouldn't take a bait.

Frank Macaro on the charterboat **Free Spirit** said that on Saturday his charter fished offshore in 36 fathoms and had action all day with big, big blue sharks. Frank brought in 4 blue sharks over 225 pounds, two to be mounted. Frank said that the sharks caught this time of year are very big and full of fight. With the water temp as it is now, Frank expects the offshore action to be good until October.

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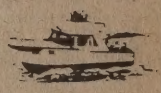

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Anthony Slikas, 10, of Woodhaven caught his first bluefish of 14 lbs. aboard the "Viking Starship." Subscriber Club Photo.

PROMISED LAND

Art Brand of the **Promised Land Fishing Station** reported that on Sunday many anglers had a lot of fun with bluefish in the 2 to 3 lb. class at Cartwright Shoals. Following the birds fish were being taken casting surface lures or trolling. Fluke fishing was better on Sunday and has been picking up with 4 to 15 nice fish a boat. They range in size from legal to 3½ pounds. Best action is now north of Can No. 2 off Hicks Island. Art said that virtually everyone fishing for porgies has been loading up at either the Bell Buoy off Goff Point or Can No. 3 right in front of the station. Fish are medium size from ½ to 1¼ pounds and there are a few blackfish mixed in with the scup. Best results are had chumming with bunker and using either squid or skimmer clams for bait. Art asked us to say that as of October 3rd, the station will only be open on weekends.

NOYAC

Helen at **Noyac Marina** reported that the fishing has been fantastic in Peconic Bay. Porgies up to 1½ pounds are being taken in big numbers in the Monastery area and in the bay off Long Beach. Squid has been the best bait for some reason on a high low rig. Weakfish up to 7 pounds are being taken on the same high low rig mixed with the porgies. A few fluke are also being taken incidental to the porgies and weakfish. Helen said that some snappers are now the "filletable" size. Kingfish have been spotted. Tommy Gibbs and his family from N.J. had a boatload of nice sized porgies with several other species mixed in.

SHINNECOCK

Capt. Clark Bellows Sr. called to report that the **Capt. Clark Boats** have been murdering the porgies in Peconic Bay. The **Capt. Clark** murdered the fish all week long on the local wrecks. On Friday 9 men took 500 porgies and 30 blackfish. Clark said the blackfishing has been picking up daily with catches of between 40 and 100 blacks mixed with the porgies on the wrecks. They are also starting to see some big blackfish as the water cools and Clark said that the blackfishing should be on in full force by the end of the month. Green crabs and fiddlers are available on board both the Capt. Clark boats. On Sat. the **Capt. Clark II** fished offshore with disappointing results, probably due to the high winds last week. Not many sea bass were taken, so on Sunday the boat fished Peconic Bay and loaded up with porgies and blackfish.

Indian Cove Marina reported that Capt. Dave Warsen on the charterboat **Jennie II** had a good catch offshore in 180 feet of water 30 miles south of Shinnecock Inlet. The boat trolled yellowtails, green bonito, dolphin and a 58½ lb. wahoo, which was taken by Paul Tittel.

HAMPTON BAYS

Jimmy at **Corr's Marina Fishing Station** said that the fluke fishing in Shinnecock Bay had slowed down considerably this past week. Best action was still in the East Channel by Shinnecock Inlet and the West Channel towards Ponquogue Bridge. The larger boats are now getting good action outside in the mouth of the inlet. Best bait has been sand eel with squid or live killies when available. Snapper fishing is still excellent throughout Shinnecock Bay and many anglers are taking fish up to 1 pound trolling small silver spoons with a drail. Some signs of life have been showing on flounder fishing by the Coast Guard Station. A few boats picked 5 to 10 flounder after their day of fluke fishing.

Frank's Fishing Station had good news about the flounder fishing. On Sat. afternoon George Sardi fished by himself and caught 40 nice flounder in only a few hours on the outgoing tide at the mouth of Smith Creek. George used sand worms for bait and didn't even have any chum. But anglers should note that starting this weekend **Frank's** will have a good supply of mussel chum and bloodworms on hand for the weekend flounder fishermen. On Saturday the fluke fishing was only fair in the inlet with one boat taking nine good sized fish. Best action on incoming water using sand eels and squid for bait. Snappers are still around in big numbers but no reports have come in for blue claw crabs.

MORICHES BAY

Larry at **L&M Marine Fishing Station** said that in all honesty fishing must be reported as spotty. Fluke are only being taken in small numbers in the New and Old Cuts approaching Moriches Inlet. Best action on incoming tide but no one has been killing them. The hole between buoys 42 and 43 is producing spotty catches of a mixed bag of porgies, lafayettes, weakfish and blowfish.

Jim at **Skidmore's Fishing Station** reported that weakfish are being taken in the hole northeast of buoy 42 on squid strips or snapper strips fished 18 inches off the bottom. Boats have been averaging about a dozen fish per trip and catches have come in as high as 67 for one boat. The fish average 2½ to 3½ pounds and there are plenty of them. Jim said that small bluefish are mixed in with the weaks and are being taken on Ava-27 diamond jigs or Hopkins. There is also a good sprinkling of porgies in the hole. Fluke fishing has only been fair around the Elbow at buoys 38 and 39 with incoming water producing the best catches. Flounder fishing has been picking up and one angler scored with a catch of 18 by the coast guard station. Snapper fishing is excellent all over. Offshore, bonito, albacore, skipjack and a few school bluefin tuna are being taken trolling feathers and cedar plugs. The action is in 90' to 120' of water south of the inlet and the small bluefins are being taken in 120 to 140' of water. Good catches of blues are being trolled at the Sea buoy in 85 feet of water. The 8 to 10 lb. class blues are being taken on umbrella rigs.

East Moriches Bait and Tackle tells us that Mike Kijowski and wife and Ed Green had 14 bonito, 11 blues and 2 albacore trolling feathers and cedar jigs on Sat. and Sun. due south of Moriches Inlet. Ed Schroeder on his boat "Jo-Lyn" on Sunday fished 155' of water and caught himself a 227 pound blue shark. On the rod was Tom Kovitz. Later in the day Steve Voss battled and beat a 75 lb. tiger. Harold Kelly subdued a 14 lb. 6 oz. bluefish on a live eel in the bay at the West Cut. Blacks are at the rocks on clam or worm. Fluke seem to be dying off, but flounder are starting in various deep holes on sand and bloodworms. Weaks are still falling to sand worms, squid and live snappers in the deep holes and around the bridges.

MASTIC BEACH

Steritz Fishing Station reports lots of snappers from buoy 15/24 "all over the place" up to 1½ lbs on all tides, using spearing. Fluking was fair/good this past week from buoy 19/24 on killies and squid. Crabbing has been slow. Albacore, bonito and tuna and skipjack plus some large blues are being trolled up southwest of Moriches Inlet in 70'-120' of water. Feathers, cedar jigs are doing it for thhese first three and umbreellas for the bluefish. Up to 300' of wire plus drails for the blues as they are deep. Short lines of 40-60' for the tough guys.

SAYVILLE

Young's Fishing Station reports that a group from Con Ed made good weakfish and snapper catches along with good catches of blowfish fishing west of the station in the channel from buoy 28 on down. This was mainly on squid strips and worm for the blowfish. Another hot area is the Sayville Line. On Sunday Bob Gillette had over 40 weak up to 7 pounds on squid plus 6 kingfish and blows all off Sayville on squid. Weakfishing has been good all week for skiffs working down current of the clam dredges. Fish with squid or with a salty dog tipped with squid bounced along the bottom. Crabs and snappers have been good all week. Kingfish and blowfish are being brought in regularly on clam. Vinnie says that no boats in the last 3 to 4 weeks got skunked. The weakfish seemed to be schooling up and people are catching good numbers. Try staying with squid baits.

WEST SAYVILLE

Marty at **South Bay Fishing Station** reports lots of kingfish, three quarters of which are in the 2 lb category being taken on squid. Best fishing is just west of buoy 30 on any moving tide. Weaks in the same area on squid and clam. Best fluking this week was at buoy 28 on sandeels. Blowfish in the buoy 5 area with worms best, followed by clam. Vinny Romano and pal Tim of Poughkeepsie took 38 kings and 54 blows plus 11 weaks on Sunday fishing the buoy 30 area. Kingfish ran up to 2½ lbs.

OAK BEACH

The Store reports the pier and rock jetties facing on the inlet are producing snappers on sandeels and spearing, blackfish on fiddler crabs and porgies on worms or clam. A few bass and a fair amount of weakfish being taken at the Sore Thumbe and off Cedar Beac h for casters. The weaks are taking live snapper and also surface plugs at dawn.

BAY SHORE

Smokeys Bait and Tackle reports very good

Anthony Stines with nine nice fluke taken recently on the Captree Queen.

veakfishing using live snappers off the Fl ighthouse as evidenced by Mike Cacrmis rom Bay Shore with an 11 lb 8 oz weak taken n broad daylight plus a catch of other weaks. A lot of weakfish from 8-12½ lbs are being veighed in . Fluking took an upturn Sat. in Fl nlet on spearing and squid with many 3 ounders coming over the side plus ccasional bigger fish. Snappers are super ow about 10" in lenght and they are all over he bay. Very good blackfishing on the Kismet Reef which is now jammed with oats. One customer had 16 blacks on slack vater Sat. at the reef. They are also being aken at the Robt. Moses bridge all on iddlers. Frank Saleitti on his boat Hound Dog ad 3 bass over 20 lbs and 10 bass over 18 lbs n five eels this week in the bay. Albies, onito and skipjack hitting red and white eathers in 80-100' of water and around the NB. Fish are also hitting Hopkins squid poons. Thursday night roughly 250 lbs of luefish were landed by Mike McManus, Joe nd Sandy Ott on Capt. Otts **Hit The Beach**. Fishing in 65' of water off Cherry Grove on ait.

CAPTREE

Capt. Neil of the **Lady Ann** called to say the fluking remains very good in his locality on sandeels and killies. Day blues are fair to good with bait and chum also working days now as well as nights. Neil says it looks like an excellent Oct. bluefish month shaping up. Night blues remain good. Saturday's fluke trip for 19 men saw 112 fluke caught from the bridge to buoy 2. Saturday night's bluefish trip saw 19 anglers nail over 250 choppers. In the past 3 weeks no night blue trip has resulted in less than 200 fish. They are settling in over wrecks now. Neil says that he has a few weekend charter dates available for Oct.

The **Capt. Ben Litwin** reported the fluke fishing is still very good and holding up in the inlet. The fish are good sized with virtually no throwbacks being taken. Best bait has been sand eels and squid or killies. Starting this weekend the **Capt. Ben Litwin** will be sailing at 7 A.M. for a mixed bag of blackfish, sea bass, and porgies.

Capt. George Tweedy of the **Capt. Scotty** reported that the bluefishing has been fair during the day and good at night. The boat is now sailing 7 A.M. daily for the big bluefish and on Friday and Saturday it is sailing two trips—one at 7 A.M. and one at 7 P.M. Group rates are also available, so give the Captain a call.

Capt. Carl Bower said that blackfishing has been picking up in Great South Bay and looks like a good fall run of blackfish is in the making. Starting this weekend, the **Capt. Whittaker** will be sailing daily at 8 A.M. and blackfishing on the local wrecks in GSB.

BABYLON

Mario at **Hi-Hook Fishing Station** tells us that 2 customers in 1 skiff had 50 blackfish on the inshore Kismet Reef on Sat. fishing fiddlers on slack water. Fish ran from 1-5 lbs. Another skiff brought in 16 keeper fluke on Sat. on spearing and sandeels. Sun. saw another boat return with a mixed bag including 22 blosfish which were caught in the ferry boat channel on clam. Blacks, fluke and various other bottom species are now being picked in this fall grab bag on worms, clam and squid. Lots of large snappers being taken on just about everything, going up to ¾ of a pound.

Augies Bait and Tackle reports that the BTCAlbacore Contest was taken with a 14 lb albie boated by Babylon angler Al Lorenzeti Jr. Fluking has been fair this week, so we know they are still around. The trick is to get through the snappers with sandeels and squid and also with big spearing. Big weakfish at the Lighthouse on live snapper as evidenced by A.L.Jr.'s 12 lb 11 oz weak taken this week also. Anchoring up and chumming will almost assure you a good mixed bag of bottom feeders right now, including kings and porgies. Lots of blacks being taken at the Kismet reef on fiddlers, fish up to 5 lbs.

LINDENHURST

Charlies Bait and Tackle reports tuna and albacore in abundance from 80-165' of water and around the NB on feathers, Cedar jigs, Hotchies and almost any appropriate lure. Saturday and Sunday saw very good blackfish catches at the bridges and at the Kismet Reef on fiddlers and green crabs, blacks running up to 7½ lbs. Four fares on one charterboat took 125 blacks fishing the Kismet Reef this week. That's good fishin'. There are still a lot of fluke around with the best area being from the bridge to the inlet on sandeels and squid. Flounders have started in the State Channel, the back bays and at the Sore Thumb. This is best on worms. Loads of weaks on live snappers and eels north of the Lighthouse in Fl Inlet with a lot of porgies in that area too. John says that we are now having some of the best fishing in years.

COPIAGUE

Jonas Bait and Tackle tells us that Joe Gervasi on his boat MAE had 8 weakfish from 8-12 lbs taken on live snapper on Thursday f ishing off Fl Inlet's Lighthouse. Jonas has

Christopher Marullo arranged this charter on the Babylon "Sea Ranger" and the fisherman had a successful day of tuna fishing.

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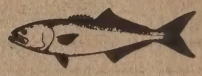

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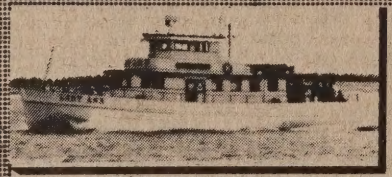

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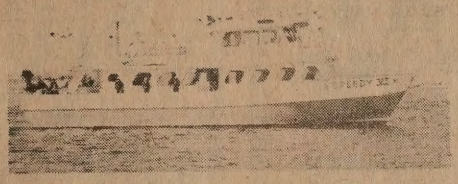
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weighed in a lot of 8-13 lb weaks this week; Ed Thomas of the Amity Harbor Fishing Club brought in a 13 pounder taken on live snapper. Lots of blackfish at the Kismet Reef on fiddlers. Jonas and 3 buddies had 51 of them on Thursday on fiddlers from 1-4½ lbs. He saw fish up to 12 lbs taken on other boats; Jonas has heard of blues taken from the beach from Cedar to the Sore Thumb. These range from 5-12 lbs and were hitting best on surface plugs. The Coppiague Hole has been producing a fair number of fluke on sandeels and squid while good porgy catches are being made in the St. Channel, the Coppiague Hole and all round the Bay in general, on clam. Nice sea bass being taken at the Sore Thumb from the rocks on clam. Snappers are plentiful on live killies and a float.

AMITYVILLE

George Combs Bait and Tackle asked us to announce the Seventh Annual North East Decoy Collectors Meeting will be held at the Masonic Hall on Montauk Highway in Babylon on Sun., 9/25/77. The show and auction will be one day only from 9am to 5 pm. Adult admission is $1.00, children free.

Bait and Tackle Unlimited reports plenty of porgies on clam and worm with good sized weaks on sand worms in the State Channel, Gilgo, the Old Lighthouse and Inlet. Fluke slowing a bit in the inlet, but still good. Blackfish at the Robert Moses Bridge and on the reef, on fiddlers. Stripers in the State Channel and Moses Bridge on clam bellies and live eels. Snappers slowing up considerably. Flounders showing at some holes on bloodworms. Tuna and bonito southeast of Fl Inlet in 100 to 120' of water on feathers.

SEAFORD

Captain Eddies Fishing Station reports that Henny Ryan of Brooklyn with his 2 sons bagged 4 weakfish of 9¼ lbs, 2 in the 8½ lb range and 1 about 6 lbs. Ten others were dropped —all on Lafayetts and snappers. They nailed a few fluke also, all this being done in Zack's Bay/ State Channel area. There are few fluke right now but those caught are larger, still on sandeels and squid. Blows, porgies, lafayetts and snappers are all being taken together on worm and clam almost anywhere in the bay. Zack's Bay and the bridge areas are particularly good.

Lon Wanser Bait and Tackle reports good mixed bags of porgies, seabass, snapper, fluke, flounder and weakfish. Best fluking is in the inlet on squid, sandeels and spearing. Porgies and seabass are good on clam in Zacks bay and the State Channel and off Massapequa. Weakfish at the bridges on live snapper. Flounders though small, are being taken at Four Corners with worms working best. Just a few striped bass reports and these are mainly fish being chummed with bellies and also bunker dunked in the night time hours.

BELLMORE

Merrick Marine Supplies tells of tuna bonita and albacore being taken on Cedar Jigs in 125' of water, 140 degrees out of Jones Inlet. Lots of small flounder in the deep holes locally on blood and sand worms. Weaks have been spotty though Jones Inlet and the Short Beach area have been producing fish on squid and live snapper. The snappers still seem to be everwhere. There are sand porgies galore all over the bays along with blowfish and lafayetts. Blacks on fiddlers at the

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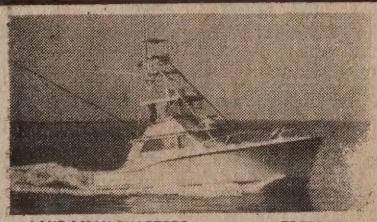

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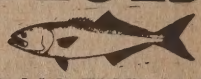

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Meadowbrook bridge and on the T Wreck. Cod and pollack are also being taken off the offshore wrecks. Joe Sallano took a 44 lb wahoo while fishing from his boat in Montauk.

MERRICK

Jimmy at **Nick's Fishing Station** reports snappers are excellent all over the place on small baitfish and on tins. Good blackfishing at the bridges on fiddlers. Mixed catches of porgies, lafayetts, flounders and eels at the Merrick Pt and rowboat alley. This is on worms and clambaits. Fluke seem to be petering out though some are still being taken in the creeks and the mouth of Jones Inlet. Sandeels and killies are doing it. Weakfish were taken during the week at the bridge and at the inlet on live snapper though the weekend saw a downturn in this activity. Small blues were taken in this same area also. Best is live snapper on the flood tide. A few 30 lb tuna were weighed in over the weekend, fished in the area of the NB. Jimmy fished Montauk for 2 days this week, nailing blues from 6-10 lbs at the Triangle with Cast Hopkins.

BALDWIN

Arthur St. Fishing Station reports Jim Johnson nailed a 20 lb. skipjack this week along with a few bluefin tuna and albacore. The lure is not known but red and white feathers are suspected. Jim Mandato took a 32 lb. tuna along with several blues on artificial squid around the NB buoy. Bluefish have been caught this week just outside the inlet on jigged A-27s and trolled umbrellas.

N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

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The charterboat **Sea Bee** called to say that Tony and Frank Ferrari and Fred Smarrito of Yonkers bagged 160 bonito and albacore on a trip this past week to the NB area. Fish were taken on red and white feathers. The albies ran from 11-15 lbs and the bonito ran 2-3 lbs. A sprinkling of skippies were also taken.

Charterboat **Nite Owl** called to tell us that Friday's charter for Ken Delkescamp resulted in 9 albacore in the 15 lb range being trolled on feathers. On Saturday, Capt. joe Long had to attend a wedding where he caught nothing. On Sunday his charter for Manfred Thiessen of the Matsui Company resulted in the trolling up of a 42 lb tuna, a 20 lb tuna, 3 albies and a 14 lb bonito, all on red and white feathers 10 miles NE of the HA.

The **Shalidon** reports tuna, bonito, and albacore trolled at the NB and at the HA also, better in the vicinity of the HA. Capt. Arnold trolled jet lures on the outriggers and cedar jigs and feathers on the flatlines.

Bob at **Hook Line and Sinker Bait and Tackle** tells us that weaks are being taken off the Jones Beach Jetties on salty dogs and rubber worms and that these are 7 lb. class fish. Snappers are all over the place. Flounder are starting with Reynolds Channel, Swift and Long Creeks producing 1½ lb. class fish. The fluke are slowing down quite a bit but may still be taken at the mouth of the inlet and in some of the channels. Some blackfish from the canal bulkheads and the jetties on fiddlers and clam, along with the bridge stantions. Henry Drinkwater had a 9 lb. 6 oz. weak at the Meadowbrook Bridge on sand worms fished 3 feet off the bottom. Fishing from the Jones Beach Jetty, Alan Kloepfer had 5 weaks on Fijord Spoons, bucktails and salty dogs.

Anthony's Fishing Station reports fluke still around with Short Beach and the inlet a likely spot on sand eels and squid. Flounder are starting to get plentiful with Short Beach and Swift Creek your best bets on worms. Blackfish on fiddler crabs at the Meadowbrook Bridge. The bay seems to be full of porgies, lafayettes and snappers. It's a real grab bag now, with fish in good quantity.

The Starstream II reports good sea bass and porgy fishing. Giant sea bass and some big blackfish are being taken at the local wrecks, rocks and reefs. High hook has been bringing in 70 fish. Bluefishing has been slow over the weekend with weather conditions not being too hot. They have been fishing all over from the Mudhole to Fire Island. In general, this fishing has been hot and cold.

Ralph, Kevin, Gerry, Bob, and Ed caught a mixed bag of tuna, bonita, and albacore on board Capt. Joe Long's "Nite Owl."

Bob Bianco, Bob Jr., Tom Innamorata, Bob Link, Bill Spraul, Jr., and Sr. (left to right), show off bonita, albacore, bluefish and a 30 lb. yellowfin tuna taken near the NB buoy on the "Just Michele."

The **Miss Freeport** reports some nice sized porgies and flounder were taken on Thursday on the southside of Swift Creek. These fish were of all nice size.

Aloma II reports good flounder fishing with fish from 1 to 1½ pounds being taken in local Freeport areas like creeks and channels. Porgies were being taken in the bay averaging ¾ pound. A few fluke were also mixed in with the catches. **Aloma** reports decent catches of sea bass were had along with porgies. Five gallon cans were filled at the local wrecks with 2 lb. bass and porgies running over 2 pounds.

Capt. Hall reports that fishing has been fair. On Saturday high hooks took 10, 9 and 6 fish while on Sunday a high of 8 was had. The fluke fishing is being done in the inlet with sand eels and squid. On Sunday, Arthur Miller snagged a rod and reel and when brought in the snagged rod had a fluke on the end of it.

POINT LOOKOUT

Ed's Fishing Station reports that bottom fishing was the best bet this past week. Plenty of sand porgies, lafayettes, snappers and blacks were taken. Best bet for blackfish is at the Meadowbrook Bridge with fiddlers. Fluke fishing is on its way out. The best bet for sand porgies is at buoys 16 and 18. Flounder can be taken in Swift Creek at the Houses on worms. Weakfish are being picked up at the Meadowbrook Bridge and at the mouth of the inlet on snapper and sand worm bait. These fish are averaging 4 to 6 pounds but can be had to 8 pounds.

The Marie III called to report fantastic fishing on the local wrecks for sea bass and porgies. They fished one particular wreck for two days in a row as fish were piled up thick. Clam was the bait. A 5 lb. fluke was also taken, on a porgy rig, no less. Later on in the afternoons they trolled umbrellas for a total of 18 small to medium bluefish both days.

ISLAND PARK

Beckmann's Tackle reports that weakfish, bluefish and a few bass are being taken

Porgies and weakfish caught at the Tin Can grounds caught by Jerry Erolino, his son and Frank Gioia. The 200 pounds of porgies ran up to three pounds each and 150 pounds of weakfish, from five to seven pounds. Subscriber Club Photo.

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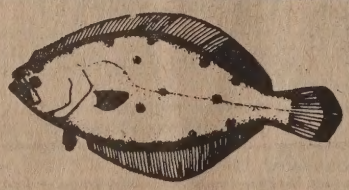

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trolling and jigging along the beaches from Jones to Rockaway. Nice sized fluke up to 8 pounds are taking smelts at Riis Park. Blackfishing at the bridges is picking up with all bigger fish taking green crabs.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Marty Feuer of Cedarhurst and John Finney of Great Neck fishing on the Marlena worked the Atlantic Beach and Long Beach areas taking over 100 lbs of blues and weaks from 8-10 lbs on the new Lupo Baby Bunker Spoons.

Henning's Fishing Station reports blackfishing excellent at the pilings of the Atlantic Beach Bridge. On Sunday, one angler filled five 5 gallon pails with blacks, all on fiddlers. Tuna, albies and bonito at the NB buoy on cedar jigs and feathers. Fluking has slowed down considerably. Blues and tuna at Cholera on trolled feathers. Porgies at the bridges on clam and worm.

JAMAICA BAY

Cross Bay Bait and Tackle reports that lafayettes can be had in Jamaica Bay on worms. These fish are of hand size or better. Snappers are in abundance and snapper blues up to 1½ pounds can be taken on chunks of bunker or strips of lafayette. Fluke are still being taken in the Ambrose Channel, inside the bay and at the Marine Parkway Bridge. Blackfish are starting to show and good spots to catch them are at Rockaway and at the Marine Parkway Bridge.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Capt. Stan Kreisler of the charterboat **BABE** called to say that Saturday's charter for Phil Rosen and Company and Sunday's charter for the custodian workers I.S. 391 Brooklyn, trolled umbrella rigs with red tubes working best for excellent catches of blues and weaks at the Tin Can and the Black Side of Ambrose.

The Tampa VI reports bluefishing was good at the beginning of the week but fell off for the remainder of the week due to the strong

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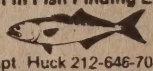

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Greg Fix caught this 8 lb. weakfish on a live snapper drifting in Jones Inlet aboard his dad's Boston Whaler. Subscriber Club Photo.

and continuing winds which scattered the schools. The blues should settle down again strong by this coming weekend. Bananas also seem to be working well at night now, when the fish are around. The **Tampa VI** was booked solid for the tile trip to Hudson Canyon that left on Monday morning at 2 am and Capt. Victor anticipates very good catches of tile on this trip and the others that are coming up. See ad for dates and sailing times. The new **Tampa VI** is really some boat to behold, loaded with comfort and goodies. Take a tour on her the next time you are down the bay.

Capt. Joe on the **Atomic II** reports plenty of fluke Friday and Saturday with a 10¼ pounder being taken on Friday at the Tin Can. Loads of porgies there also. The boat will be fishing half and half each trip for fluke and porgies which are being caught together in the same general vicinity. Joe also says that the ling and whiting are very thick now in the Mud Hole which means that there should be a spectacular ling and whiting fishery there this fall. Joe had very good bluefish action Thursday night as well as Fri and Sat night as the fish have begun to settle down again in some areas.

The **Enterprise** reports very good fishing at inshore Klondike. Plenty of bonito and albacore with some blues are being taken. Over the weekend a party of 40 people took approximately 200 fish on jigs and bait.

The **Big Mohawk II** reports that bonito, albacore and bluefish are being taken at Klondike area. On Saturday he fished southeast of Ambrose Tower and at the Playland Reef off Rockaway. For the short ride to get there lots of fishing time was had and lots of fish were taken on jigs and bait at night. Klondike is producing 4 to 6 fish per man on jigs and bait.

New Zephyr reports good porgy fishing during the week. On Saturday good catches of porgies averaging 1 pound and 30 blacks from 5 to 7 pounds were taken. On Sunday, the boat had excellent porgy, sea bass and blackfishing. This fishing is being done from the Tin Can to the Rockaways at the wrecks, reefs, and rocks.

The **Blue Sea III** has been taking loads of bonito, albacore and big bluefish in the Klondike area. The fishing was excellent during the week with catches of 40 to 50 fish per week being taken. On the weekend, the fishing slowed because of a lot of boat traffic and to catch fish it was mostly a seeking game.

Shown here is Mrs. M. Andretta with a fluke of 18 lbs. 15 oz. Photo courtesy of Mako Marina in Freeport.

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Contest Rules & Regulations

1. DATES-- The Contest will begin at midnight on May 1st and end at midnight on October 31st, 1977. Fish must be caught during this time frame and be confirmed as a new World Record by the International Gamefish Association (I.G.F.A.) no later than February 1st, 1978.

2. ENTRY FEE--There is no entry fee to participate in the Contest. The only requirement is that you MUST have been a subscriber of The Long Island Fisherman for at least 30 DAYS before the date that a fish was caught. Immediate members of a subscriber's family are also eligible if they are living together in the same household. Example: Mother, father, brother, sister, daughter, son.

3. ELIGIBLE SPECIES--The Contest has ten (10) eligible species: five inshore and five offshore. They are:

Inshore--	Offshore--
FLUKE	BLUE SHARK
WEAKFISH	MAKO SHARK
STRIPED BASS	WHITE SHARK
BLUEFISH	SWORDFISH
BLACKFISH	WHITE MARLIN

4. RULES--The winner of the Contest will be determined by fish caught by subscribers of The Long Island Fisherman that are recognized as new World Records by the I.G.F.A. The following rules will apply:
   a. Fish must be one of the ten eligible species
   b. Catch must be made sometime between midnight May 1st and midnight October 31st, 1977.
   c. Fish must be taken in Long Island Waters.
   d. All catches must be made under the rules and regulations set up by the I.G.F.A. These rules and regulations will be printed in the May 5th issue of The Long Island Fisherman, and will be available after that date for any angler sending in a self-addressed envelope to The Fisherman.
   e. The catch must be CONFIRMED as a new World Record by the I.G.F.A. by February 1, 1978.
   f. New records can be for any of the I.G.F.A. line classes: 6-lb., 12-lb., 20-lb., 30-lb., 50-lb., 80-lb., 130-lb., or All Tackle, for both Men and Women.

5. WEIGH-STATIONS--Any of the Long Island Fisherman Official Weigh-in Stations may be used for a PRELIMINARY weigh-in of a possible world

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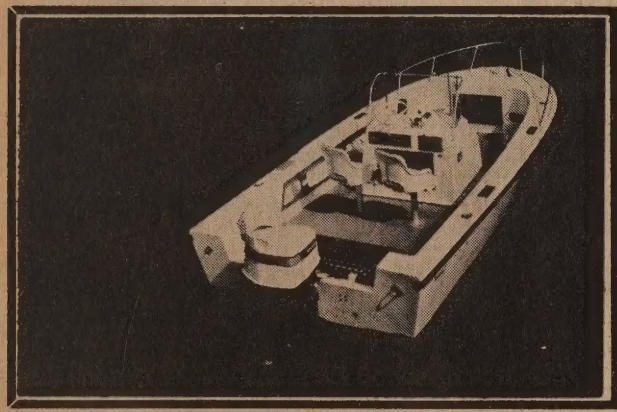

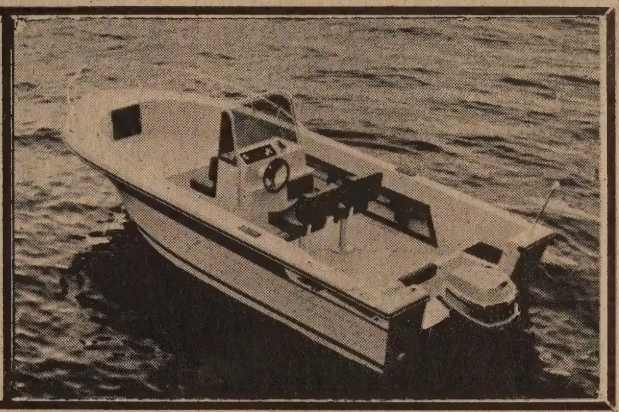

record fish. If it appears that the fish is a possible record, it must then be OFFICIALLY weighed in at STARFISH MARINE in East Islip, New York. After the Official Weigh-In Starfish Marine will prepare the necessary record applications that must be sent to the I.G.F.A. It is the anglers responsibility to transport his catch to and from Starfish Marine.

6. CURRENT RECORDS--For the convenience of eligible anglers, the current recognized records by the I.G.F.A. will be published in the May 5th issue of The Long Island Fisherman. Periodic updates of new records set while the contest is in progress will also be published in the pages of The Fisherman.

7. TIES--In the event that more than one subscriber sets a new World Record, the winner will be decided by the following criteria:
   a. The angler setting the most I.G.F.A. records during the contest will be the winner.
   b. In the event that no angler sets more than one record, but two or more anglers set a single record, the following point system will be utilized to place the winners:
      1. One point will be scored for each percentage point that the new record beat the previously held record, based on weight. Example: If the new record is 25 lbs. and the old record was 20 lbs., the new record is 25% more weight. Score 25 points.
      2. One point will also be scored for every year that prior record existed. Example: If the old record was set in May 1967 and the new record is set in 1977, score 10 points.

8. PRIZES--The Grand Prize will be the winners choice of a 1978 Grady White Center Console or a Mako 20, which will be awarded by Starfish Marine. If more than one new I.G.F.A. approved World Record is set, there will be a consolation prize for the 2nd highest point fish of $500, 3rd highest $250 and $50 for each additional record.

9. JUDGES--The decision of the judges will be final.

10. Employees of Starfish Marine or The Long Island Fisherman and their immediate family members are prohibited from participating in the Contest. Anglers that have had an article published in The Fisherman within the past three years are also ineligible.

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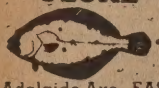
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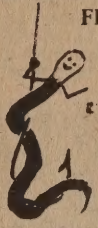
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NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

STATEN ISLAND

Santo's Sport Shop reports that Fort Wadsworth and South Beach are producing blues to 13½ pounds. These fish are being produced at sun up on poppers at Fort Wadsworth while South Beach is doing it with cut bait. Average catch of 6 to 9 fish are had with some weakfish mixed in. Weakfish to 9 pounds are taking sand worms at Newdorp Beach. Great Kills Harbor is producing bluefish and weaks on live lafayettes, Kastmasters and Hopkins. Manhattan Street in Princess Bay is producing 2 to 4 lb. blues on bait. Stripers up to 5 pounds can be taken at Pier 8 and in Sailors Snug Harbor on worms. Blackfish are being picked up at the Old Orchard Lighthouse and West Bank.

GREENPORT

A.P. White Bait Shop reports excellent catches of porgies being taken along with some blacks and flounder. Blackfish can be found around Gull and Plum Islands. Flounder are at Plum Island and Orient Point. Bluefishing last week was best in the late afternoon and early morning in the Race, Valliant Shoals and Pigeon Rip.

The partyboat **Brand X** reported terrific bluefishing at Valiant Shoals and in the Race. Fish ran anywhere from 6 to 12 pounds.

SOUTHOLD

Port of Egypt Fishing Station reports good porgy fishing in the bay on clams. Flounder are being taken off Long Beach on an incoming tide on clams. Snappers are abundant in the area. In the Sound, small blackfish are being taken along with bigger porgies. Flounder are being taken on the Sound side of Orient Point. Bluefishing in the Race has been on and off with fish averaging 7 and 8 pounds taking bunker, smelts and bucktails.

NEW SUFFOLK

Capt. Marty's Fishing Station reported that the fishing for weaks, porgies, king fish, snappers and blowfish has been very good this past week. On Sunday John Bodnas, Pete Barnes and Artie Thomas fished sand worms, squid and skimmer clams in 15 feet of water between Nassau Pt. and Roses Grove and came up with 175 porgies, 20 kingfish, 14 weakfish, 40 blowfish, and 30 snappers. The weakfish average 3 and 4 pounds and ran up to 7 pounds.

AQUEBOGUE

Warren's Tackle Center reports that fishing has been very good this past week. Porgies and weakfish have been picked up in Roses Grove area on sand worms. Snapper blues from 1 to 1½ pounds are being taken on spearing and shiny lures. Blackfishing in the Sound is starting to pick up. Hermit crabs are best bait when available but these fish are also taking fiddlers and green crabs.

JAMESPORT

Jamesport Bait and Tackle reports that porgies to 2 pounds are being taken in the bay and snappers are being taken all over. Weakfish from 7 to 8 pounds are taking squid and whole sandworms in Roses Grove. Blackfishing is picking up from Roanoke out to Orient on fiddlers, green crabs, sand worms and bloodworms. Porgies to 2½ pounds are all over the Sound and are taking worms. Blues up to 12 pounds are hitting bunker at Kenny's Beach.

ROCKY POINT

Rocky Pt. Fishing Stop reports that porgy fishing is holding up strong with fish up to 2 pounds taking sand worms. Blackfishing is on the upswing at Oldfield Pt. Fish from 1 to 3 pounds are taking worms and crabs. Snappers are wide spread but are of large size. They can be taken in the harbors on half ounce shiny lures. Fluke fishing has slowed at the drop off at buoy 11. Stan Hentschel and Tom Brady aboard the Carry On fished 5 miles east of the Middle Grounds on Saturday afternoon and loaded up with bluefish averaging 5 pounds and up to 8 pounds with some fish taken up to 15. The fish were taken on light tackle with ¾ ounce poppers on the change of tide to outgoing. Bluefish are being caught on bunker from the surf from Broadway Beach to Hallock Landing. These fish are running from 5 to 7 pounds.

SELDEN

Angler's Den reports that fishing this past week depended on what kind of weather was around. Bluefish are scattered around with best results coming from buoys 9 and 11. Here umbrella rigs are producing blues from

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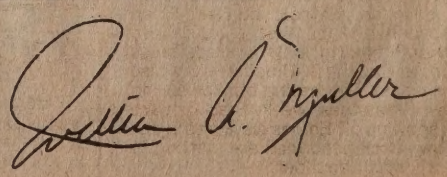
Editor's Head: LIGHT TACKLE
(Continued from page 4.)

power its own gill covers.

But what about this business of landing the fish as quickly as possible. Doesn't that defeat the whole purpose of catching fish with light tackle? Not at all! Let's make a contest out of this sport, shall we? Put the hurts to a fish. Six pound test line doesn't require a six ounce drag setting—make the fish work! Hold that rod high and proud, don't lunge forward every time the fish runs. Hold the rod high and make the fish bend that limber wand! Put the hurts to them. If they break the line or the hook tears free—well, that's the game of fishing. You'll find that you can defeat the fish much more quickly if you make it a contest and you'll really be giving the fish a chance.!



Pat Bile displays some of the blues taken south of the HA Buoy on trolled tuna feathers. Subscriber Club Photo.

3 to 12 pounds. Joe Covello brought in 8 blackfish up to 7½ pounds taken on green crabs off Rocky Pt. Paul Tangesser brought in several fluke over 6 pounds with the largest going 12 pounds.

MT. SINAI HARBOR

Ralph's Fishing Station reports good porgy fishing still in the area. Blackfishing is picking up along the beaches in the rocky areas with green crabs being the best bait. There are plenty of good sized snappers to be taken in the area. Fluke fishing has slowed down along the shore with some fish still being taken drifting snappers. Bluefish are also being picked up on snapper bait.

PORT JEFFERSON

Caraftis Fishing Station reports plenty of porgies and big snapper blues in the area. There were a lot of blues this past weekend at buoy 11 but the bigger ones came from the Middle Grounds by trolling umbrella rigs and working diamond jigs off the bottom. The fish were found in many depths anywhere from 30 to 90 feet. School bass are taking spinner and worm combinations at the Narrows and Conscience Bay. Green crabs are producing blackfish at both Oldfield and Rocky Point.

NORTHPORT

Bowman's Sporting Goods reported early last week 6 bluefish from 6 lbs. 14 ozs. to 11 pounds were caught by Robert Tota and his son Joseph at buoy 11B in the early morning. The best time last week for bluefish was between 4 and 8 A.M. by trolling deep with umbrella rigs. George Pullis caught a 16 lb. 10 oz. bluefish on a whole bunker. Brian Leskowicz caught a 12 lb. 10 oz. bluefish with a black eel umbrella rig. Both of these blues were caught at buoy 11B. Bluefish were also in Cold Spring Harbor chasing bunker during the first few days of last week. Blackfish are starting to show up off Eatons Neck and Black Can 13. Town dock fishermen are starting to pick up a few small flounder.

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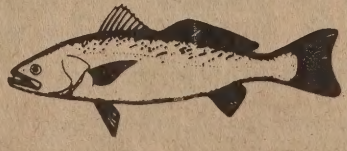

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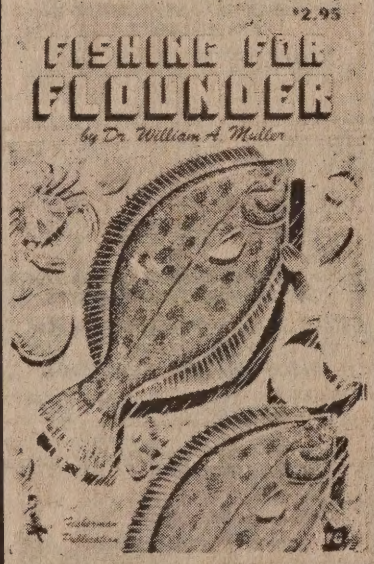

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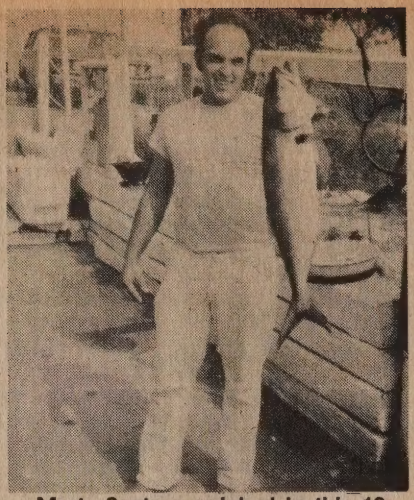
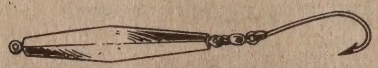


Marty Santoro weighed in this 12 lb. 4 oz. bluefish at Mae's Way. He took the fish on a bucktail at Callahan's Beach.



KINGS PARK

Bob at **Mae's Way Fishing Station** reports plenty of good catches of porgies over the weekend with some blacks mixed in with catches. Some good bluefish catches were brought in this past week. Snappers at the mouth of the river are not only a sure bet, they are getting larger and ferocious. On Sat., Emanuel Karalis of Queens with two friends took 3 bushels of porgies on worms off Callahans. Sunday Joe Pesce of Brooklyn came in with two bushels of big porgies and a few blackfish taken on worms off Makamah. Sunday morning Roger Olson and Arnold Discorsi weighed in a catch of 17 bluefish up to 14 pounds taken off Long Beach. The fish hit trolled bucktails in good light and chunk bait after dark. On Tuesday, Mark O'Donnell caught a 14¼ lb. bluefish trolling a white umbrella off Eatons Neck.

HUNTINGTON

Four Winds Bait and Tackle reports good blackfishing at buoy 11B at Eatons Neck. Fish from 6 to 7 pounds are taking green and fiddler crabs. Porgies up to 2 pounds are being caught at buoys 13, 11B, at the Loading Platform and at Marshall Field. These fish are hitting worms or clams. Fluke fishing slowed down at Diamond Pt. Fish are being taken inside Lloyd Harbor up to 3 pounds on squid, sand eels and spearing. Snappers are still plentiful. Bluefish are being taken on mostly live bunker and chunks in Cold Spring Harbor. Fish up to 16 pounds can be caught at the Sewanake Yacht Club and at the Cold Spring Harbor lighthouse. Bluefish to 4 pounds are being trolled and jigged off buoy 15—Diamond Pt.

Ronnie's Bait and Tackle reports bluefish are being taken south of buoy 11B in 35' of water on mackerel chunks. Blues up to 4 pounds were being taken on umbrellas, diamond jigs and by casting small white bucktails at Lloyd Pt. Blackfish can be taken at buoy 11B and green crabs are the bait. Small flounder to 1 pound can be taken in Lloyd and Duck Harbor and in the bay on worms. Snappers are plentiful and can be taken at the town docks and in the bay on shiners and small lures.

CITY ISLAND

Jack's Bait and Tackle reports loads of porgies and lafayettes are around for the sinker bouncers. Small bluefish from 8 inches to one pound are scattered throughout this area. Bigger bluefish are around but fishing for them is a very hit or miss proposition since the fish are always on the move.

GROTON CONN.

Capt. Brad Glas reported Alex Pono Jr. of Flushing N.Y. took the weekly award in the **Hel-Cat** Contest (week ending Sept. 11th) with a 16 lb. 8 oz. bluefish. The fish also won the weekly award in the partyboat division of the Groton Bluefish/Striped Bass Derby. What makes things interesting is that the largest fish caught so far in the **Hel-Cat** Contest, 17 pounds 10 ounces, was caught before the Groton Derby got underway. Of course, this weight can be surpassed by the end of the season, which has a long way to go, and there is still a good possibility that some angler will be able to come up with both the Hel-Cat and Groton Derby prizes with the same fish. From calls received from many of the Hel-Cat's regular anglers during the running of the Americas Cup Races, we are happy to note that they too are taking pride in the fact that their favorite party fishing boat has been traveling with such select company. By the time this goes to press the cup races will be over and the Hel-Cat will be back to bluefishing.

Gene Kowolski, Lou Figluzzi, George Frey, George Kowolski, Jim Becker, and Jack Young (left to right) pose with a 750 lb. mako shark caught in 175 feet of water south of Moriches Inlet. The fish is a new State record. Subscriber Club Photo.

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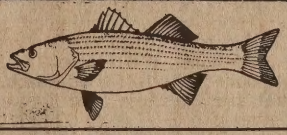

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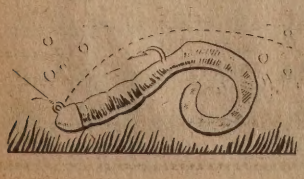

CHUM LINES
(Continued from page 7.)

water where fish are. The depth recorder can find the fish, but fish are fish—no matter where they are. If they have lockjaw, nothing will appeal to them. It is just as difficult to catch this type of freshwater species as the salt. To see, and yet not be able to get, is quite frustrating to the sweet water angler as the marine fisherman.

If you think that the moon phase is not effectively used by freshwater people, you are mistaken. It is not the fire in the water that a full moon eliminates in freshwater, but creates shadows and hiding places for the bait fish to hide from prowling predators. Some bodies of water (freshwater, that is) are best fished when there is no moon and others, best when the brightness is upon it.

Freshwater fish play hide-and-seek, just as marine species do in large aquatic bodies. These fish move about and have to be located in other areas. This has been proven in the Santee-Cooper Striper fishing. They migrate about just as though they were in the ocean. Confined they are, but believe me, when you are out on that body of water, it looks like an ocean.

You are right about extra bucks for better equipment when used in saltwater; still, if taken care of properly, tackle will last a long time and it is a very good thing that there are no sharks in freshwater—but we do have bears in some places.

I must say this again: fishing is fishing, no matter where it is. Freshwater angling is just as grueling as is salt. It is up to the fisherman himself, as to how much endurance it takes to catch a fish. Instincts on a big ocean are rarely employed in these modern days. It is known as **"Progress"** and you can almost match apples for apples between the two water species and their systems. An experienced angler will catch fish anywhere he or she decides to go. **Dick Mermon, Massapequa Park, NY**

PATS & PANS

As a constructive suggestion, may I recommend that the address label be located other than in center or side of face page of each issue. The pictures are quite interesting and informative, and when marred by the postage sticker they lose appeal. I often send copies to people in Kentucky and Tennessee, and the recipients have commented about this defacing.

I've found the publication very informative, especially on fish rigs and lures. Possibly you could give some cooking recipes for the fish as they come into season. This question is often asked on "open boats" since few fishermen care to waste their catches, but fail to realize all the uses the fish can be put to.

The quality of the book can improve, but do not over-emphasize the individual fishing manuals, such as fluke, bass, etc. The average guy likes general info. **William H. Garmar.**

Your constructive comments are appreciated. We try, but as Abe Lincoln said: "You can please some of the people some of the time, but not all of the people all of the time." A reader survey told us that the overwhelming majority of our readers want how-to and where-to articles. However, within this framework there is flexibility and we know from past experience that many readers enjoy reading recipes for cooking fish. We plan some for the future. Keep an eye out for special winter issues which will offer how-to info that can be applied to many types of saltwater fishing. Thanks for sharing your thoughts. **Dr. W. A. Muller.**

READER COMMENTS ON 200-MILE LIMIT

In reference to your editorial in Issue #34 of Sept. 8, 1977.

I agree with all you say about our rights to fish. Like all other fishermen, I was very happy we got our 200 Mile Limit.

However, don't for a minute think that the government gave in to us, the fishermen. We weren't their main concern—oil, other minerals, and military reasons were.

A long time ago, I was pushing for the fishing limit, and I cautioned the government that if others could take our fish, what would stop them from taking our oil, or other minerals from near our shores.

So therefore, that is why I think that we are not getting full support of our fishing laws, by all government agencies concerned. **Martin Hutchinson, Bklyn., NY.**

You may be right when you say that our government officials are not particularly concerned about our fishing rights, or the quality of the domestic sport and commercial fisheries. The National Marine Fisheries Service has given us little reason to think otherwise to date, but the Regional Fisheries Management Councils are made up of concerned citizens, and we do have reason to believe that action will finally come when the Councils take charge of each management plan. That is precisely why fishermen, like yourself, must keep government on its toes, and give your support to the councils. **Dr. W. A. Muller.**

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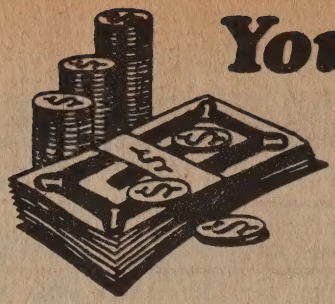

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HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	Breakwater Harbor AM	Breakwater Harbor PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGE-PORT AM	BRIDGE-PORT PM	NEW-PORT AM	NEW-PORT PM	DATE
THUR.	3:59	4:30	4:52	5:24	4:45	5:12	5:47	6:12	8:15	8:41	7:35	8:01	4:03	4:35	9/22
FRI.	4:59	5:26	5:58	6:25	5:49	6:14	6:46	7:12	9:18	9:42	8:38	9:02	5:12	5:38	9/23
SAT.	5:53	6:19	6:56	7:20	6:47	7:08	7:41	8:05	10:12	10:35	9:33	9:56	6:11	6:31	9/24
SUN.	6:43	7:07	7:47	8:08	7:37	7:56	8:30	8:55	11:01	11:25	10:24	10:45	7:00	7:19	9/25
MON.	7:30	7:51	8:33	8:53	8:22	8:41	9:14	9:37	11:44	—	11:09	11:30	7:45	8:03	9/26
TUE.	8:13	8:35	9:15	9:35	9:04	9:23	9:56	10:20	12:08	12:25	11:52	—	8:26	8:44	9/27
WED.	8:54	9:15	9:57	10:15	9:46	10:04	10:37	11:00	12:47	12:58	12:15	12:33	9:03	9:22	9/28
THUR.	9:36	9:57	10:34	10:54	10:27	10:47	11:17	11:41	1:21	1:26	12:56	1:13	9:42	10:02	9/29

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet.....—0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide , add 6 ½ hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	—0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	—0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	—0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	—0 12
Seaside Park	—0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	—0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	—0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	—0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	—0 02
Rehoboth Beach	—0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	—0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	—0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	—0 38
Democrat Point	—0 38
Coast Guard Station	—0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	—0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	—0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	—0 08
Herod Point	—0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	—0 20
Truman Beach	—0 42
Falkner Island	—0 13
Sachem Head	—0 10
Branford Harbor	—0 07
New Haven Harbor	—0 08
Milford Harbor	—0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	—0 03
Saugatuck River	—0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	—0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	—0 14
Montauk Inlet	—0 25
Montauk Point	—1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	—0 33
Noank, Mystic River	—0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	—0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higganum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	—0 10
Execution Light	—0 06
Manhasset Bay	—0 01
Hempstead Harbor	—0 11
City Island	—0 03
Rye Beach	—0 28
Port Chester	—0 09
Mamaroneck	—0 08
New Rochelle	—0 24
Davids Island	—0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	—0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	—0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	—0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	—0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	—0 08
Point Judith Harbor	—0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	—0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

SUNRISE/SUNSET

9/3	6:27	7:31
9/8	6:32	7:22
9/13	6:38	7:14
9/18	6:43	7:05
9/23	6:48	6:56
9/28	6:53	6:47

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
9/13	9/20	9/27	9/5

The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM Minor	AM Major	PM Minor	PM Major
THURS.	12:55	**7:35**	1:30	**8:05**
FRI.	1:45	**8:25**	2:20	**8:50**
SAT.	2:35	**9:15**	3:05	**9:40**
SUN.	3:25	**10:00**	3:55	**10:25**
MON.	4:10	**10:45**	4:40	**11:05**
TUES.	4:55	**11:25**	5:20	**11:50**
WED.	5:35	—	6:05	**12:15**
THURS.	6:25	**12:30**	6:45	**1:05**

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